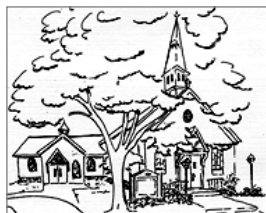


January 2016

Cooksville
Lutheran
Church
News

*A Caring Community Empowered
by God to be Disciples of Christ*



January



Whiter than Snow

From Pastor Karla

*"Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."
Psalm 51:7*

Dear Friends in Christ,

The past few days it has been lightly snowing. I'm delighted. The deck where our birdfeeder hangs was getting pretty dirty from all the sunflower seed husks left behind after their little feasts. Now it looks clean and sparkly again.

1. Baptism: A Spiritual Cleaning Leaving One Whiter than Snow

My snowy clean deck reminded me of a little chorus I remember singing at Luther Valley Church in Cherub Choir as a child:

*Whiter than snow,
Yes, whiter than snow.
Now wash me, and I shall be
whiter than snow. (See page 3)*

This old hymn in a simple way restates what happens in baptism, and what happens whenever we repent and turn toward the Lord. We are "washed clean"

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

and not just clean, but “whiter than snow” clean. A blindingly bright clean!

Clean water is such a common and abundant commodity for us. So commonplace in one sense, yet so absolutely necessary in another sense; without it we would die in just a few days. Spiritually, we need Living Water to wash our impurities away and fill us with eternal life.

2. Baptism: Connects the Baptized to a Deep Well of Living Water

When I was a child I wanted to go up to our Baptism Font at Luther Valley and remove the cover to look inside. I was too scared to do so, however, because I thought it had a hole in the bottom and, like a well, went deep within the earth. In fact, it is like that, though not literally. God in Christ Jesus is the Living Water without whom we would die spiritually. When a person is baptized, it is like their heart becomes a well that is connected to that Living Water.

Jesus said to [the woman at the well], ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ (John 4:13-14)

Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are God’s ways of reaching us with the grace of Jesus, the Living Water. Baptism seals us with the Holy Spirit which is like setting up a connection within our heart to Jesus, our Source of Living Water. Holy Communion is like a refreshing of the ground water of our community, so that our heart wells always have access to Living Water. This Water cleanses us, which is why Martin Luther spoke of the need to remember our Baptism daily as **“grace-filled water of life and a bath of the new birth in the Holy Spirit.”** (See page 16 for Luther’s thoughts on Holy Baptism).

(Continued on page 4)



"Whiter than Snow"
lyrics were written by
James L. Nicholson.

He was born in Ireland, and came to America some time in the 1850's. He lived for years in Philadelphia, then moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked as a clerk in the Post Office. As a Christian layman, he taught Sunday School, led the singing in church, and assisted in evangelistic work.

While in Philadelphia, Nicholson attended the Wharton Street Methodist Episcopal Church, of which gospel musician William Kirkpatrick was also a member. Whether James Nicholson was encouraged to write hymns by Kirkpatrick, we do not know, but he wrote a number of them. However, only one seems to be in general use today, Whiter Than Snow.

*Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.*
-Isaiah 1:18

Whiter Than Snow

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole,
I want Thee forever to live in my soul;
Break down every idol, cast out every foe;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Refrain:

Whiter than snow; yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, let nothing unholy remain,
Apply Thine own blood and extract every stain;
To get this blest cleansing, I all things forego;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, look down from Thy throne in the skies,
And help me to make a complete sacrifice;
I give up myself and whatever I know;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

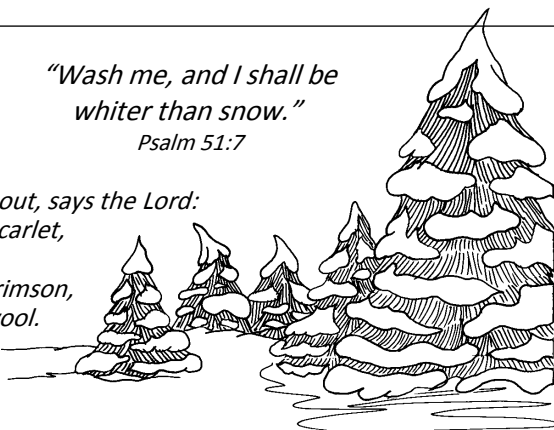
Lord Jesus, Thou seest I patiently wait;
Come now, and within me a new heart create;
To those who have sought Thee
Thou never saidst, "No";
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

The blessing by faith, I receive from above;
Oh, glory! my soul is made perfect in love;
My prayer has prevailed, and this moment I know,
The blood is applied, I am whiter than snow.

Whiter than snow; yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

*"Wash me, and I shall be
whiter than snow."*

Psalms 51:7



(Continued from page 2)

3. Baptism: It's All About Confession & Forgiveness

On Sunday, January 10, we celebrate the "Baptism of Our Lord." Although Jesus' baptism was not one of "repentance and the forgiveness of sins," our baptism is all about confession and forgiveness. (See Matt. 3:11, Mk 1:4, Lk 3:3).

The "earthly element" in baptism is water. Water combined with the Word of God is administered as Holy Baptism—the immersion into the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Martin Luther teaches us to return to our baptism daily — to use the Ten Commandments to examine ourselves, then confess our sin to God, repent of our sin, and place our faith in Christ. Jesus forgives our sin, washes us clean, and baptizes us with the Holy Spirit.

Every day we need God's grace. Even though we are "marked with the cross of Christ forever," which is a great comfort, we need confession and forgiveness and communion with God to be a part of our daily life in order to grow as a disciple.

May God help us to grow in discipleship in 2016.

Grace and Peace to you all!
Pastor Karla Brekke

Martin Luther opened the Reformation by nailing the "Ninety-five Theses" to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. The very first of the theses stated that "our Lord and Master Jesus Christ . . . willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
-1 John 1:9

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

-Isaiah 55:10-11

Online: For a sermon by Nadia Bolz Weber on how to wage spiritual warfare, go to <https://sojo.net/articles/how-say-defiantly-i-am-baptized>





*Purge me with hyssop,
and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be
whiter than snow.*

Psalms 51:7

In the winter of 1986 I first heard the song “Somewhere It’s Snowing” on our local Christian radio station. The song poetically uses snow as an analogy of God’s grace falling on repentant humans and washing them clean from sin. It happened to be snowing at the time and as I watched the snow fall, my heart was lifted up and I was filled with joy. I have never forgotten that experience. Imagining God’s grace falling like snow whenever someone “turns from sin to the Lord” and hearing that “forgiveness like snow covers them evermore” — well, it moved me to

tears! How beautiful and how blessed we are that God’s grace blankets us with Christ’s righteousness, a spiritual robe that covers our sin, just like snow covers the earth. All too often I look at my life and see only brown barren landscape, but occasionally the truth of God’s grace breaks through and I see the beauty of Christ’s righteousness in my life. Jesus said, “no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born from above.” That day, as a baptized child of God, I saw a glimpse of the Kingdom. And in the Kingdom, it was snowing down God’s grace. —Pastor Karla

Somewhere It’s Snowing

*I once read in a poem - when snow covers the earth
That it hides the world's scars and gives nature new
birth*

*And they say when a man turns from sin to the Lord
That forgiveness like snow covers him evermore*

*And it's told that the angels lift their hearts and rejoice
When one traveler turns homeward from his way
to the Lord's*

*If somewhere someone's turning, he's giving his all
Then God's grace like the snow is beginning to fall*

*And somewhere it's snowing, see the soft drifting down
As the snowflakes surrender to the hardening ground
Like the good grace of Jesus that now covers our sin
In the Kingdom of Heaven, It's snowing again*

—By David Stearman

Does this memory from Pastor Karla’s life remind you of a time when God’s grace seemed especially real to you? If so, I challenge you to share that memory with 2-3 people this month.

Read Psalm 51.

Think about how God’s forgiveness and cleansing from sin has worked in your life. Share your insights with someone else, perhaps with Pastor Karla.



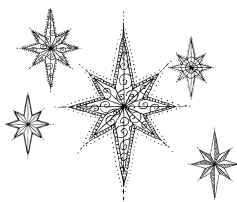


Worship Matters

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. -Psalm 100:2

The Epiphany of Our Lord

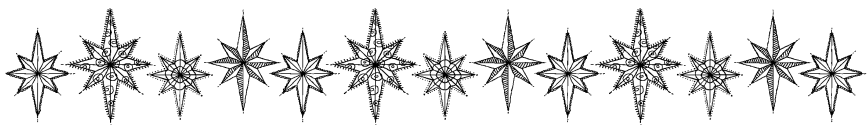
January 6, 2016



Epiphany is **observed annually on January 6.**

It is an important word for liturgical churches. The word epiphany comes from the Greek word "epiphaneia," which means "appearance or manifestation." It refers to the wise men, who were the first Gentiles to see the manifestation of God's appearance in the baby Jesus. The day is filled with surprises, mysterious visitors, and exotic gifts. God's story leads us through unexpected twists and turns, and the mission of God's people introduces us to faith partners we have never expected.

In the early church, January 6 was a day for baptism. The central significance of Epiphany is that Christ came as the Light of the World, not just for the Jews but for Gentiles as well. Christ's light is for all.



The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2016

Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan river.



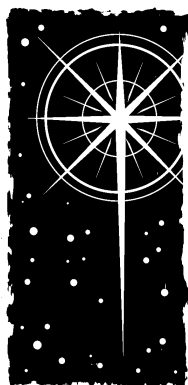
When all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from

heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:21-23)

Baptism is the beginning of a new story. It was for Jesus; it is for us. God claims us as sons and daughters, fills us with the Holy Spirit, and promises to travel the path with us -- a path that will lead us home.

The Season After The Epiphany

January 7 - February 9



The Epiphany of Our Lord brings the twelve days of Christmas to an end and begins a season that will focus on God's revelation in Jesus.

The Epiphany season is the time when Christ's lordship over all creation is revealed, made manifest, unveiled. What was once known only to the Holy Family and shepherds at Christmas, now is made known to a greater audience.

Jesus is "revealed" as "Son of God" to the Magi, court astrologers from distant lands who come to worship and give this King their tribute. Jesus' epiphany as Son of God reaches to the ends of the earth.

Jesus is "revealed" as Son of God to John the Baptist and his disciples at the river Jordan.

Jesus is "revealed" as Son of God to a growing base of support among the populace of Galilee, and particularly a group of followers, some fishermen, even a tax collector.

Jesus' epiphany as Son of God reaches even across time, as the Church, gathered each Lord's Day around Word and Sacrament, is embraced by the call to "come and see, come and follow, go and tell others." The Epiphany season lasts as long as it takes to move us from January 6 to Ash Wednesday, which is February 10 this year.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2015

*A special thank you to all who
purchased poinsettias in honor or in
memory of loved ones.*

Anne Brunsell & Don Little
Art & Doris Olsen

In honor of our grandchildren
In memory of Trygve & Eunice Olsen, and
Lloyd & Corinne Apfel

Barb & Wayne
Bob & Sherri Haakenson
Connie Gregerson
Curtis Brandt

In honor of Cooksville Lutheran Church
In memory of Johannes' grandparents
In memory of Jackie Stark
In memory of Gordon & Mary Brandt, Earl &
Betty Erickson, Emily Gehn and Samantha
Klinefelter

Kathie Gunn

In memory of Charlene Farberg, Chad Farberg
and Therese Farberg

Kevin & Karla Brekke

In memory of Mae Schollmeyer, Clara & Bill
Stromsett, Carl and Craig Schollmeyer, Rodahl
Brekke

Marilyn Kueng
Martha & Jim Johnson

In memory of John & Alvera Haesler
In memory of Merle & Dora Johnson and
Robert and Frances Saunders

Paul & Donna Haakenson

In honor of Ben, Jacob, Annaliese, Miles and
Natalie

Randy & Linda Sime

In memory of Bernhard & Gladys Sathre and
Paul Sime

Rhonda & Mark Wethal
Rich & Marilyn Thompson

In honor of Brady, Grayson & Alex Wethal
In honor of good neighbors Bob & Earlene
Hanson

Rosa Hanson
The Lindert Family
The Wagner Family

In memory of the Vincent Family
In memory of Thomas Lindert
In memory of Richard & Loretta Wagner and
Linda Crull

Virginia Sime

In honor of my children, grandchildren & great
grandchildren





On Tuesday, November 17, a few people met to begin planning activities to celebrate our church's **125th Anniversary in 2016**. The celebrations will culminate with a church banquet (catered) on Sunday, November 13, 2016. Do you have ideas, pictures, or stories to share? The next meeting is **Tuesday, January 19, at 7:30 p.m.**

Please join us! (Coffee and refreshments will be served by Pastor Karla.) Call Donna Haakenson if you have questions or ideas.

***Are you interested in joining
Cooksville Lutheran Church?***

*There will be an informational
meeting following worship on
Sunday January 10th.*

*Pastor Karla will answer
questions and schedule a time to
visit with you at greater length*



**A heartfelt
thanks to our
wonderful
Sunday School
teachers for the**

first part of the school year:
Rhonda Wethal, Sue Parsons,
Sherri Haakenson, Linda Sime,
Curtis Brandt, and Connie
Gregerson.

**Sunday School
Lesson Schedule**

Sun. Jan 3

Rhonda Wethal
"Jesus the Word"

Sun. Jan 10

Sue Parsons
"Jesus' Baptism"

Sun. Jan 17

Sherri Haakenson
"Wedding at Cana"

Sun. Jan 24

Linda Sime
"Jesus goes to
Nazareth"

Sun. Jan 31

Curtis Brandt
"Jeremiah"



January Birthdays

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will. ~ Ephesians 1:5

6 Dennis Haakenson
7 Marci Rogers
9 Jeremy Tomlin
13 Tom Severson
15 Andrew Bednarek

16 Steve Ehle
22 Abbey Wethal
Norma Schwarting
23 Joel Gunn, Jr.
24 Kevin Brekke

March 12, 2016
SYNOD L.E.A.D. WORKSHOP
for all congregation members

First Lutheran Church,
Janesville

This an annual event includes
worship, inspiring
presentations and informative,
engaging workshops.

*(L.E.A.D. = Leadership
Education and Development)*

**Synod Assembly
2016**

Pastor and 2 Lay
Delegates
Sat. 4/30—Sun. 5/1
Kalahari, Wisconsin
Dells



Cooksville Lutheran Church will participate in the



Synod Bike Ride as a
Pit Stop along the way.
June 11, 2016

More Info coming in Feb. 2016

The Season of Lent at Cooksville



February 10	Ash Wed.	7:00 p.m.	
February 17	Worship	7:00 p.m.	Supper at 6:00
February 24	Worship	7:00 p.m.	Supper at 6:00
March 2	Worship	7:00 p.m.	Supper at 6:00
March 9	Worship	7:00 p.m.	Supper at 6:00
March 16	Worship	7:00 p.m.	Supper at 6:00
March 20	Palm Sunday	10:15 a.m.	
March 24	Maundy Thu.	7:00 p.m.	
March 25	Good Friday	7:00 p.m.	
March 27	Breakfast	8-9:30 a.m.	
	Easter Vigil	9:30-9:42 a.m.	
	Worship	10:00 a.m.	

Wednesdays in Lent—Join us for a light supper at 6:30 p.m. before our worship at 7:00 p.m. Our evening worship will be based on Holden Evening Prayer and messages from people in our congregation.

Would your family or group like to sign up for a night to make and serve the Wednesday Lenten Supper? There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please put your name and what you will be serving.



Time for Prayer

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ~ Acts 2:42

Wednesday Noon-12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

We need to be people of prayer. Why? Because there are so many needs, and so many people have asked us for our prayers. The prayer list in our bulletin represents so many heart-touching stories and needs. Jesus said, *"My house shall be called a house of prayer."* - *Matthew 21:13* This is an opportunity to do what

Jesus asks us to do; to do what we know will make a huge difference in our world. If you cannot come to church to pray with your sisters and brothers in Christ, maybe you could pause about noon on Wednesday, wherever you are, and pray for a few minutes, knowing that you are joining your prayers with ours.

If you have a prayer request and would like us to pray for it, please e-mail me before 6 p.m. on Tuesday at brekkekev3@netscape.net or give me a call at 608-669-1218.



There are prayer request cards in the pew racks

- (1) One card is for writing down the first name of someone you would like prayer for during the prayers of intercession later in that worship service. These cards will be collected during the welcome at the beginning of worship.
- (2) The gold card is for submitting more detailed requests. On this card you may indicate if you would like the request to be included in next week's prayers, in the bulletin for two weeks, in the next newsletter, or in Wednesdays prayer group. Place this card in the offering plate.



Members and Friends in Prayer



Wednesday Noon-12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Each Wednesday we gather to pray for the people on our prayer list and for the people and ministries of Cooksville Lutheran Church. If you have a prayer request and would like us to pray for it, please e-mail Kevin before 6 p.m. on Tuesday at brekkekev3@netscape.net or call him at 608-669-1218.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Family of Oliver Julseth	Carol Sears
Keith Neuhauser (Joe Wilder Grandfather)	Martha Johnson
Kelly Haakenson	Larry Smith
Bridger Carrol	Louise Kluge
Jan Kettle (sister of Jim Parsons)	Judy Latka
Char Parsons (Jim Parson's mother)	Jim Porter
Evelyn Beyer (recovering from surgery)	Ruth Erickson
Ken Haakenson	
Gordon and Doris Starks	
Randy Cagnoni (friend of the Simes family)	
Dorothy Froemming (health concerns)	
John Garvan (friend of Kevin Brekke)	
Fred and Kim Durham (Randy Sime's sister & brother-in-law)	
Erik Jelinek (synod staff, cancer recurrence)	
Anne Kurey (Martha Johnson's sister, health concerns)	
Anna Hanson (health and mobility concerns)	
Ava Christianson (friend of the Wagners; cancer treatment)	
Charles Hoff (health and mobility concerns)	
Robert Hanson (chronic health concerns)	
Michael LaMantia (chronic health concerns)	
Robert Saunders (Martha Johnson's brother, serious health concerns)	
Kari David (friend of Kevin Brekke facing cancer treatment)	
Kris and family (Pastor Karla's brother)	
Members of the Military: John Haines, Dean Jass, Andrew Newcomb	



The Annual Meeting will
be held on Sunday,
February 7,
following worship
(around 11:15).

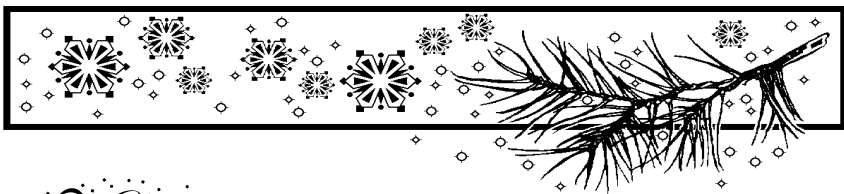
A potluck meal will be served – please bring a dish to share!

Deadline for submissions to the annual report is Sunday, January 17th. This includes any resolutions or action items to be considered. Please send submissions to Jaye via email (preferred) or leave a hard copy in her mailbox.

You may pick up a copy of the Annual Report on Sunday, January 31, following worship. Please remember your congregation, its leaders and members in prayer as we reflect on this past year of ministry and plan for God's mission through Cooksville Lutheran Church in 2015.

New Address for Ken Haakenson

KEN HAAKENSON
C/O Jim & Barb Haakenson
6891 N ABIENE WAY
Mc CORDSVILLE, IN 46055



*Grant that I may bring no tear to any eye,
when this New Year in time shall end.
Let it be said I've played the friend,
have lived and loved and labored here,
And made of it a happy year.*

-Edgar A. Guest



Food & Fellowship

We always have such a good time visiting and encouraging one another following worship. These cold winter mornings especially give us a good reason to enjoy something warm to drink and a good conversation with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Please see the *Food and Fellowship Sign-up Sheet* if you would like to host or sponsor refreshments on one of the upcoming Sundays.

Prayer for Guidance in the New Year

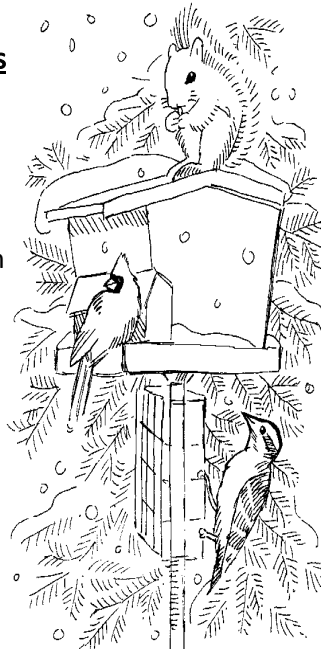
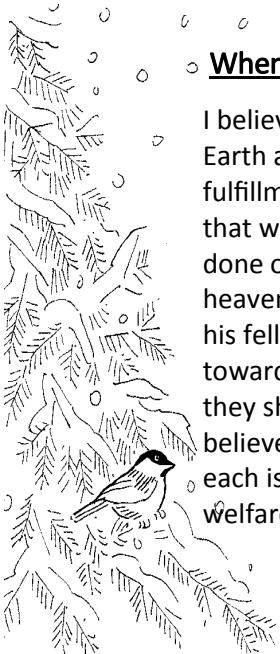
On the edge of a new year, Lord, teach us again to order our priorities and number our days and hours. And teach us to trust — life, history, one another, You. So that even in the gray and gloomy days, when the ceiling is low, we may trust the star that enabled wise men of old to live in hope and proclaim the divine promises which call us on in Jesus Christ. Amen.

—Deryl Fleming

When the Kingdom Comes

I believe that we can live on Earth according to the fulfillment of God's will, and that when the will of God is done on Earth as it is done in heaven, every man will love his fellow man and act towards them as he desires they shall act towards him. I believe that the welfare of each is bound up in the welfare of all.

—Helen Keller,
in *Midstream:
My Later Life*



LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM:
THE SACRAMENT OF
HOLY BAPTISM

I

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not simply plain water. Instead, it is water used according to God's command and connected with God's word.

What then is this Word of God?

Where our Lord Christ says in Matthew 28, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

II

What gifts or benefits does baptism grant?

It brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the words and promise of God declare.

What are these words and promise of God?

Where our Lord Christ says in Mark 16, *"The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned."*

How can water do such great things?

Clearly the water does not do it, but the word of God, which is with and alongside the water, and faith, which **trusts this word of God in the water**. For without the word of God the water is plain water and not a baptism, but with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a grace-filled water of life and a **"bath of the new birth in the Holy Spirit,"** as St. Paul says to Titus in chapter 3, *"through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is sure."*

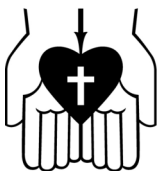
IV

What then is the significance of such a baptism with water?

It signifies that the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sins and through repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans 6, *"We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."*



Generous Hearts

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. -1 Peter 4:10

Gifts in Kind for CLC

The following items can be put to use immediately for ministry! Please remember the church the next time you go shopping.

- ◇ Highlighters
- ◇ First-class stamps – (current usage exceeds 100/month)
- ◇ Hand soap refills
- ◇ Toilet paper

Cooksville Lutheran Church relies on volunteers to accomplish the many tasks of ministry. This month a special thank you goes out to:



- ❖ **Pat Foltz**, for coordinating donations of poinsettias for Christmas Eve worship.
- ❖ **Nancy Krake**, for coordinating volunteers to assist with worship leadership, including extra volunteers for Christmas Eve worship.
- ❖ **The Altar Guild** for taking care of the altar and communion.
- ❖ **To all who purchased Poinsettias**, the church was a sight to behold.
- ❖ **The Women's Trio** Ilene Axford, Betty Hamilton, Rhonda Wethal and accompanist Kriss Hamilton for the beautiful Christmas concert on Dec 20th.
- ❖ **To those who give so generously** to support the ministry of Cooksville Lutheran Church.
- ❖ **To All the volunteers** who behind the scene, continue to give freely their skills and time take help keep Cooksville Lutheran a thriving community.

What awaits us?

We're at the starting gate of a new year. What will it hold for us? Only God knows. Yet if God knows, why not try to discover his plan for us each day? We should carry on a daily dialog with God. Following his lead is always interesting and challenging. And much of the time it's filled with wonder and joy. I remember the story of a small boy who prayed to God at the end of a fun, interesting Monday: "It's been a wonderful day, God. What do you have in mind for Tuesday?" What does God have in mind for you in 2016? Keep in touch with him, and you'll enjoy the trip around the sun. —Charles Ferrell



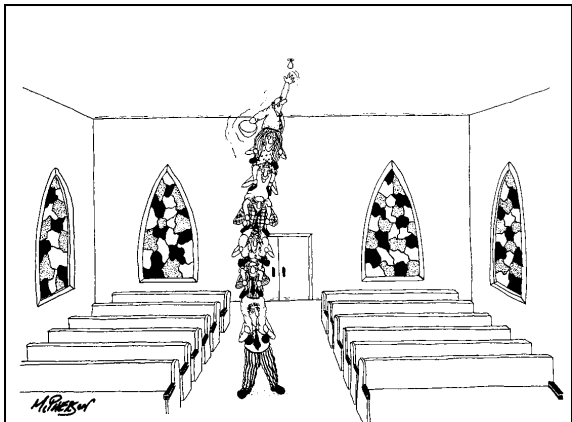
*We build up
the body with
nutrition and
exercise, but
how do we
build up the
body of Christ?*

*Through
fellowship,
training and
service in love.*

—A. Aronis

A cheerful heart is good medicine. Proverbs 17:2

Smiles



Changing that pesky light in the
sanctuary required a team effort by
members of the congregation.

Food for Thought

Quotes to Ponder

The teaching of the wise
is a fountain of life!
-Proverbs 13:14

- ❄️ "In a world where people are looking everywhere for signs of God, where have you found God? What have you done about it? And who will you tell?" —Robert Gorrell
- ❄️ "I object to people running down the future. I am going to live all the rest of my life there, and I'd like it to be a nice place." —Charles Kettering
- ❄️ I love beginnings, despite their anxiousness and their uncertainty." — Rainer Maria Rilke
- ❄️ "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." —Martin Luther King Jr.
- ❄️ "Sometimes the dreams that come true are the dreams you never even knew you had."
— Alice Sebold
- ❄️ "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." — Franklin Roosevelt
- ❄️ "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." —Frederick Buechner
- ❄️ "All that I am I owe to Jesus Christ, revealed to me in his divine Book." —David Livingstone
- ❄️ Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let each new year find you a better person.
—Benjamin Franklin
- ❄️ "Strive to be first: first to nod, first to smile, first to compliment and first to forgive." —Anonymous



**Annual Congregation Meeting
following Worship on
Sunday, February 1, 2016**



How to keep warm in church:

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit twelve people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
4. Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).



If you are interested in having a Large Print Edition of our quarterly devotion book, Christ In Our Home, please tell Jaye. If enough people are interested, we will order a few with our quarterly subscription.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

On the first Sunday of every month, a free blood pressure screening will be offered following worship in the Narthex. This service is offered free of charge for all who are interested. Please invite others who may benefit from these free screenings!



Cooksville Dartball League Schedule



Cooksville at Oregon H. M. C , January 4
 Stoughton First Luth at Cooksville, January 11
 Cooksville at Oregon St John's, January 18
 Oregon H.M. C, at Cooksville, January 25
 Cooksville at Stoughton First Luth, February 1
 Oregon St John's at Cooksville, February 8

For more information, contact Don Kersten, 884-8239.



Let's Keep in Touch!

Church office: 608-882-4408; 11927 W. Church St., Evansville, WI 53536
Pastor Karla Brekke: 608-751-0345 cooksvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com
Secretary, Jaye Lauer: 608-754-8721 cooksvillelutheran@litewire.net
Worship Coordinator, Donna Haakenson: 608-882-4131
Choir Director, Jeanne Julseth: 608-882-0505

Pastor's Office Hours:
Mon. & Wed. 1-4 pm ; Tue.-Visiting
Secretary's office hours are
Monday 10-2; Wednesday 10-12

Bulletin Printing Day Change
The Cooksville weekly bulletin is now printed on Wednesdays. If you have anything you wish to include, please have it to Jaye by Monday.

2015 Cooksville Church Council

Anne Remley-Haines (Pres.) 608-882-9997
Richard Krake (V.P.) 608-882-5609
Sue Parsons (Sec.) 608-295-8796
Tom Parsons (Treas.) 608-295-1697
Herb Hanson 608-455-6778
Laura Pehler 608-835-7552
Sue Wollin 608-455-4374
Paul Haakenson 608-882-4131
Betty Hamilton 608-882-5757



Opportunities Around the Community

Local Food Pantry Needs:

Anyone may drop off items in the basket in our Narthex
Thank you so much! Listed are items currently needed at the food pantry; *Boxed Dinners, canned Fruit, Canned pasta, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Hamburger-helper, Tuna Fish, Toothbrushes, Toilet paper, Deodorant, Shampoo, Feminine Products, Bath Soap, Toothpaste, etc.*

Thank you Evansville Ecumenical Choir for the beautiful Christmas Concert Dec 6

Since 1976, choir members from over 15 area churches have been presenting a Christmas cantata and carols. The concert is presented the first Sunday in December with the location rotating among five Evansville churches: the Methodist, Oak Grove, Congregational, St. John's Lutheran, and St. Paul Catholic.



January Worship Leaders

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

-Psalm 100:2

	<i>Sunday Jan 3</i>	<i>Sunday Jan 10</i>	<i>Sunday Jan 17</i>	<i>Thursday Jan 24</i>	<i>Sunday Jan 31</i>
Assisting Minister	Anne Remley Haines	Nancy Krake	Ilene Axford	Curtis Brandt	Nancy Krake
Communion Assistant	Anne Remley Haines	Nancy Krake	Ilene Axford	Curtis Brandt	Richard Krake
Ushers	Art & Doris Olsen	Betty & Phil Hamilton	Rosa Hanson	Rhonda Wethal & Rosa Hanson	Betty & Phil Hamilton
Lector	Linda Sime	Connie Gregerson	Sue Parsons	Anne Remley Haines	Kevin Brekke
Organist	Paul Haakenson	Naomi Shep	Jeanne Julseth	Jeanne Julseth	Naomi Shep
Altar Guild	Pat Foltz	Pat Foltz	Pat Foltz	Pat Foltz	Pat Foltz
Sunday School Teacher	Rhonda Wethal	Sue Parsosns	Sherri Haakenson	Linda Sime	Curtis Brandt
Coffee Hour Host	Krakes				Evelyn Beyer and Rachel Whittier

Thank you to the many volunteers who help with worship, hospitality, teaching, and cleaning the church.
We appreciate all you do!

New volunteers are always welcome! Contact the following people:

Ushers: Rosa Hanson (873-3831)

Other worship leaders: Nancy Krake (882-5609 or nkrake@att.net)

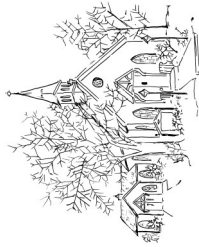
Sunday School: Church Office

Cleaning the church: Jennifer Ehle (302-1722 or jenniferhele1@gmail.com)

Coffee Hour: Church Office or Nancy Krake (882-5609 or nkrake@att.net)

Cooksville Lutheran Calendar for January 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
3 <u>2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</u> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship	4 7pm Worship Committee	5 9 am Maintenance Group	6 THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 12 pm Prayer Time 7 pm Choir	7	8	9
10 <u>THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</u> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship 11:00 New Member Meeting	11 9 am Quilting	12 9 am Maintenance Group	13 12 pm Prayer Time 7 pm Choir	14	15	16
17 <u>2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</u> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship	18 9 am Quilting 7 pm Congregational Council Meeting	19 9 am Maintenance Group 7 pm Anniversary Meeting	20 12 pm Prayer Time 7 pm Choir	21	22	23
24 <u>3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</u> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship	25 9 am Quilting 6:30 pm The Gathering	26 9 am Maintenance Group	27 12 pm Prayer Time 7 pm Choir	28	29	30
31 <u>4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</u> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sun. School 11:00 Fellowship						



Cooksville Lutheran Church
11927 W. Church Street
Evansville, WI 53536

Address Correction Requested