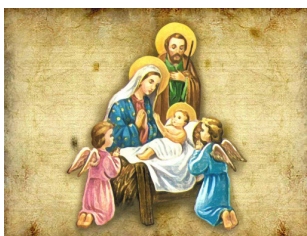


# KOINONIA

January – February 2023



LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS

PASTOR JAMES MILLER



## A NOTE FROM PASTOR JIM

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Third Commandment states the following:

<sup>8</sup> "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

<sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,

<sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

<sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Exo 20:8-11 ESV)

In his Small Catechism, Luther writes that making the Lord's Day holy means that "we should fear and love God so that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred, and gladly hear it." And in his Large Catechism, Luther writes, "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also learning and retaining God's Word in memory. Do not think that this is optional for you or of no great importance. Think that it is God's commandment, who will require an account from you (Romans 14:12) about how you have heard, learned and honored His Word."

I am writing this several days before Christmas. I have always been pleased with attendance at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, but as we enter January, attendance always falls off. I want to encourage our members to not let that happen. In my mind there are 3 reasons to attend church regularly. The first reason is simple: God wants us to do so. He commands it. The second reason is along the lines of Martin Luther: attendance gives us the opportunity to hear God's Word, to understand it more deeply, and to have it take hold in our hearts. After spending 6 days away from it, often engaged in the difficulties and stresses of our secular culture, we need to be fed again and be "put right". We need to be reminded of what is important and what is not. And we need to be strengthened to face a new week. My third reason, though, has to do with the social aspect of church attendance. When a person decides to stay home, they are depriving others in the congregation the pleasure of their company. You may not realize it, but whenever you come to church, others are glad to see you. Your presence enhances their lives.

Let's give this some thought in 2023---maybe make it New Year's resolution---one that we keep!

In Christ, Pastor Jim

## Message from St. Paul's

Our year is coming to a close. I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas with family and friends.

On January 22, St. Paul's will have their annual meeting after church. We will be providing lunch. Hope you will be able to attend. All reports will be due by January 12. Reports will be available Sunday, January 15, for review.

On January 29, Third will be having their Annual Congregational meeting. We will not have service that day, so that Pastor will be able to attend Third's Annual Meeting after service. St. Paul's is encouraged to join Memorial for service that day or Third!

I pray everyone will have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

God Bless,

Marilyn Heuer

Council President.



### ***January Birthdays***

1 Bob Unson  
5 Debra Kazantzis  
5 James Baisley  
13 Charlie Lueck  
14 Randy Lydon  
15 Glenn Murray  
23 Rob Frey

### ***February Birthdays***

1 Chris Murray  
9 Alexandra Piaget  
9 Sandy Lydon  
10 Ian Buccala  
12 Marshall McConville  
18 Don Campbell  
25 Ruth Queen

# HOW DID WE EMPLOY OUR WORLDLY GOODS?

Whatever you do,  
do all to the glory of God

The Lord and judge of all next inquire, "How did you employ the worldly goods I lodged in your hands? Did you use your food, not to seek or place your happiness in it, but to preserve the body in health, in strength and vigor, a fit instrument for your soul? Did you use clothing, not to nourish pride or vanity, much less to tempt others to sin, but to conveniently and decently defend yourself from the injuries of the weather? Did you prepare and use your house and all other conveniences with a single eye to My glory, studying to please, not yourself, but Me?"

Once more: "In what manner did you employ that talent, money? not in gratifying the desire of the flesh, of the eye or the pride of life? Not in vain expenses, not hoarding it up to leave behind? but first supplying your needs and your family's and restoring the remainder to Me through the poor, whom I had appointed to receive it?

I gave you the right to be supplied first, and the blessedness of giving rather than receiving. Were You accordingly a general benefactor to others? Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, comforting the Sick, assisting the stranger, relieving the afflicted according to their various necessities - eye to the blind And feet to the lame? A father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow? And did you labor to improve All outward works of mercy as means of saving souls from death?"

We at Memorial wish to thank all who donated toward gifts for our Head Start children. We were able to purchase Hannaford Supermarket & Pharmacy gift cards for every family and retroactively pay for blankets that the parents made. The director told us, "The blanket making activity is just so beautiful to see the families connect with each other as they create a special gift for their families and it is so heartwarming." God has blessed us! We continue to collect for their food pantry and they have expressed a need for size 3-4 diapers.

Thank you Council members  
for the tireless efforts  
you have placed in doing  
"Gods's work our hands"



Tandy Walker ..... January 17  
Joe Bahnatka ..... January 25

God Bless Memorial Council President Tandy F. Walker (518) 789-6899 walkerc.0117@gmail.com

## **Service Worship Opportunities**

Joint Worship Service — January 1, 2023 10:00 am @ Third

January 29 – No service at St. Paul's. Please join Memorial or Third at their regular service times.

Joint Ash Wednesday Service — Feb. 22, 2023 @ Third Please watch for further details.

## **Meetings**

Third W&M January 3 & February 7 @ 4:00 pm

Parish Council February 21 @ 6:00 pm

Joint Session of Councils February 21 @ 6:30 pm

Congregational Councils: January 8 at St. Paul's @ 10 am, January 10 at Third @ 4:30 pm  
February 21 @ 7:00 pm (immediately following the Joint Session)

### **Annual Congregational Meetings**

Memorial January 29, 2023 @ 1:30 pm

St. Paul's January 22, 2023 Reports due 1/12/23, Reports available on January 15, 2023

Third January 29, 2023 Reports due 1/15/23, Reports available on January 22, 2023

## **Faith Building Opportunities**

### **Bible Study** with Pastor Jim

Every Thursday @ 10:00 am

Third Rhinebeck— in *Upper Meeting Room*

*Contact Pastor Jim , 914-441-4360*

**All are Welcome!**

**Invite a friend!**

## **Service Opportunities**

### **Crafty Christians**

We are meeting in person  
Every Thursday at 11:00 am!

Third Rhinebeck

*All members and friends of the Parish and  
members of the community are welcome  
to participate!*

*Contact Bonnie Reyer 518-697-7608*

*Please invite a friend to join us!*

### **Operation Christmas Child**

The Parish collected 38 boxes!

### **Seafarer's International**

The Parish assembled 22 satchels for the  
Seafarer's Christmas at Sea!

### **Lutheran Care Center Christmas**

Thank you to all who participated!

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

Wednesday , January 11, 2023

1:00—6:00 pm @ Third Lutheran in Rhinebeck

Schedule an appointment:

Contact Bonnie @ 845-337-1590

or visit RedCrossBlood.org

***Thank you for your participation in our Parish mission of service.***

## **Worship Services on Video**

### **YouTube Channel: LutheranParishNorthernDutchess**

Weekly uploads

*If you missed a Sunday, the services are still available on the channel for easy access.*

#### **Access Videos:**

**Parish Webpage: [www.LutheranParishNorthernDutchess.org](http://www.LutheranParishNorthernDutchess.org)**

Click on Pastor Jim's picture on the Home Page. This will take you to the YouTube channel for the Parish. Select the readings or sermon you would like to view.

***Please share via your social media networks, Like the Parish Facebook page, subscribe to this YouTube Channel, and/or forward the weekly emails.***

**Pastor Jim continues to be available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer:  
phone 914-441-4360 or email [circuitpastorjim@aol.com](mailto:circuitpastorjim@aol.com).**

#### **Reminder — Donations from Amazon**

Our Parish is registered as a qualifying charitable organization with the AmazonSmile Foundation. Amazon has set up a process by which non-profit organizations such as our parish can receive a percentage of purchases made on Amazon. Each quarter Amazon then remits an electronic payment to the charitable organization as selected by the purchaser.



To support our parish such that it receives a percentage of your purchases, instead of signing in to Amazon.com in the usual manner, use the following sign-in:

**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/61-1704361>**

Although the sign-in contains the word “smile”, you are directed to the regular amazon.com homepage on which you can place your order as usual.

Many of us frequently use Amazon to purchase various items. By taking a few moments to set up your access, your purchases will provide a financial benefit to the Parish.

Contact: Gary Hack, Parish Treasurer at [hackg@citlink.net](mailto:hackg@citlink.net) if you would like further information



Return: Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess  
31 Livingston Street  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Dated Material    Address Correction Requested

To:



## KOINONIA

Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess

Pastor James Miller

[www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org](http://www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org)

Like us on Facebook: [lutheranparishnortherndutchess](https://www.facebook.com/lutheranparishnortherndutchess)

*Contributors: Pastor James Miller, Monica C. Gabryszewski (Third),  
Tandy F. Walker (Memorial), Marilyn Heuer (St. Paul's),*



**Memorial Lutheran Church, 8:30 am Service, 1232 Rte. 308, (Rock City)**  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572    Council President: Tandy Walker

**Third Lutheran Church, 9:45 am Service, 31 Livingston Street, Rhinebeck,**  
NY, 12572    Council President: Monica C. Gabryszewski

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 11:00 am Service, 7412 South Broadway,**  
Red Hook, NY 12571    Council President : Marilyn Heuer

Pastor James Miller, Cell phone (914)441-4360, [CircuitPastorJim@aol.com](mailto:CircuitPastorJim@aol.com)

Parish Secretary, Christine Murray, Parish office:845-876-4471

Parish email: [tlcr@frontiernet.net](mailto:tlcr@frontiernet.net)

Secretary hours are Wednesday & Thursday, 10am– 3pm