



# KOINONIA

November — December 2018  
LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS  
PASTOR JAMES MILLER



## A NOTE FROM PASTOR JIM

“What does this mean?” Are those words familiar to you? I bet they are, but if not, they ought to be. This question is asked by Martin Luther no fewer than 37 times in his Small Catechism. I mention this for several reasons.

First of all, as I write this, we were approaching reformation Sunday which commemorates the beginning of the Reformation. We celebrated the posting of the 95 Theses written by Luther in 1517. This was a tremendously important historical event. It set into motion a debate within the Christian Church (at least in Western Europe) which is still ongoing. A huge step toward reconciling differences came about 1999 with the issuing of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification by the Lutheran World Federation and the Vatican. However, we are still separated from the Roman Catholic Church in a number of ways.

Discussions between representatives of those two bodies continue on a national and international level. I try to stay abreast of these discussions because I have two mentors who participate in them. On November 7 the Metro NY Synod and the Archdiocese of New York are presenting a forum led by Eero Huovinen, the Lutheran Bishop Emeritus of Helsinki, Finland and Roman Catholic Bishop Christopher Kenney of England. They will be presenting the latest developments in these talks which are meant to bring the two churches closer together. I will be in attendance.

“What does this mean?” This is the question most often raised in their deliberations. As they two sides search for common ground between them, they try to understand how they each understand basic theological doctrines. They search for common ground by trying to understand how each side understands concepts like grace, faith, and justification, divine inspiration, the sacraments, and the priesthood. The goal is to come closer and closer together, and there is reason for us to hope that this will one day be achieved. The motivation of course is contained in the message of that well-known hymn, “The Church’s One Foundation is Jesus Christ Our Lord”

I recently officiated at my first wedding. I worked with the young couple over the period of a year to help them understand *what it means* to be married in the church. In my sermon at the wedding ceremony I spoke about *what it means* to have the understanding that God is present in a marriage and that God *blesses* a marriage.

I have had the joy of baptizing two infants here in the Parish, and again, it was important for me to speak with the families about “what does this mean?”. And of course, I have presided over several funerals and burials. I have spent many hours speaking with families, offering the comfort and consolation of Jesus’ promise of eternal life for those who believe in Him. Not everyone gets married. Not everyone has children to be baptized. But everyone, sooner or later, faces the death of a loved one, and will also face the end of their own days on this earth.

“What does this mean?” I think it is very important to think theologically---to think about where God is in our lives, in the lives of those we meet, and in the events of the world. We are hosting an event at St. Paul’s Parish Hall on Saturday, November 10 from 9:30 until 3 on this very question: “What does this mean?” It is a retreat led by Rev. Jonathan Linman who is Bishop Assistant in charge of faith and formation for the Metro NY Synod. We will be using Luther’s Small Catechism as a vehicle to stimulate conversation about our faith in 2018. There will be participants (clergy and lay) from all of the Lutheran congregations that make up the Hudson Conference and it promises to be very rewarding. I hope to see you there.



In Christ, Pastor Jim



# Rediscovering the Small Catechism

What does this mean...

*Today?*

Saturday, November 10th

9:30 am—3:00 pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 7412 South Broadway; Red Hook, NY

The Small Catechism is the little book that arguably binds Lutherans together in common experience perhaps more than anything else. Most life-long Lutherans have vivid memories of their youthful time with the Small Catechism. But this resource for faith formation is not just for kids! Moreover, those new to the Lutheran tradition may never have had the chance to engage the Small Catechism. What does this all mean today? We will experientially explore this question during our time together, worshipfully and conversationally attending to the faith themes that the Small Catechism addresses.



Pastor Jonathan Linman, Bishop's Assistant for Faith and Leadership Formation, will guide the day's experiences and conversations.

A Retreat for the Hudson Conference of the Metro New York Synod and friends. Please bring \$3 for lunch on site.

RSVP to [Pastorjonja@christwoodstock.org](mailto:Pastorjonja@christwoodstock.org)

"We Are Church Together"



**Metro NY Synod**  
**Town Hall Meetings by Quadrant**  
 Quad 1: Tappan Zee/Delaware-Hudson/Hudson  
**November 4, 2018 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**King of Kings Lutheran Church**  
 543 Union Avenue  
 New Windsor, NY 12553

*Provide opportunity for lay members, leaders, and rostered ministers to offer their input about what leadership gifts are needed as we discern together the election of a new Bishop.*

Contact Monica for further details and car pool information.  
 914-475-6613 [gabrymc@frontiernet.net](mailto:gabrymc@frontiernet.net)



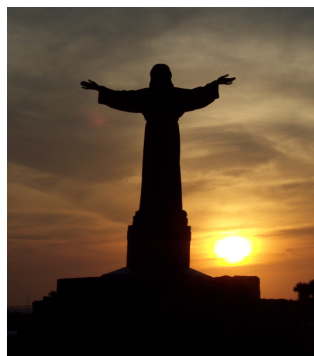
Meetings	
Third W&M	Nov 13 & Dec 4 @ 4:00p.m.
Parish Council	Nov 27 & Dec 18 @ 6:00p.m.
Joint Session of Councils	Nov 27 & Dec 18 @ 7:00p.m.
Congregational Councils	Nov 27 & Dec 18 following joint session
<i>Council Meetings November @ Third &amp; December @ St. Paul's</i>	



Special Worship Opportunities	
<div>  </div> <div> <p><u>Thanksgiving Eve Prayer Service</u></p> <p>Ecumenical</p> <p>November 20 @ 7:00 pm</p> <p>St. Paul's Lutheran in Red Hook</p> </div>	
<div> <p><u>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services</u></p> <p>December 24</p> <p>5:30 pm Third in Rhinebeck</p> <p>7:30 pm St. Paul's in Red Hook</p> </div> <div>  </div>	
<p><u>Christmas Day</u></p> <p>December 25</p> <p>10:00 am</p> <p>Memorial in Rock City</p>	<p><u>Sunday December 30</u></p> <p>Joint Worship Service</p> <p>10:00 am</p> <p>St. Paul's Red Hook</p> <p><i>(no services at Memorial or Third)</i></p>
<p>Pastor Jim will be on vacation December 26, 2018 – January 1, 2019.</p> <p>Please contact your Council President in the event of urgent pastoral care needs.</p>	
<p><i>Invite a friend!</i></p>	



Faith Building Opportunities	
<p><b><u>Christian Ed</u></b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Confirmation – 6:00 p.m. St. Paul's Red Hook Contact Pastor Jim 914-441-4360</p>	<p><b><u>Bible Study</u></b> with Pastor Jim</p> <p>Thursday 10 a.m. Third Rhinebeck Upper meeting room Contact Pastor Jim 914-441-4360</p>
<p><b><u>Prayer Gathering for Healing and Consolation</u></b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 4:00 p.m. @ St. Paul's Red Hook Upper meeting room</p>	<p><b><u>Bible Study</u></b></p> <p>Thursday 6:30 p.m. Gospel of John</p> <p>St. Paul's Red Hook Downstairs at the church. Contact Steve Bucala 758-1228</p>
<p>All are Welcome!      Invite a friend!</p>	
<p><b><u>Rediscovering Luther's Small Catechism</u></b></p> <p><i>What does this mean ... today?</i></p> <p>Hudson Conference Retreat November 10, 2018 9:30 am—3:00 pm St. Paul's in Red Hook</p> <p><i>Luther's "The Small Catechism" is the little book that arguably binds Lutherans together in common experience perhaps more than anything else.</i></p> <p><i>What does this mean ... today?</i></p> <p><i>We will experientially explore this question during our time together, worshipfully and conversationally attending to the faith themes that the Small Catechism addresses.</i></p> <p>Led by: The Rev. Jonathan Linman, Ph.D. Assistant to the Bishop for Faith and Leadership Formation</p> <p>Please bring \$5 for lunch on site. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Pastorjonja@christwoodstock.org">Pastorjonja@christwoodstock.org</a></p>	
<p>All are Welcome!      Invite a friend!</p>	





## **Parish is Invited**

### **Christmas Tree Lighting**

**November 25**

3:00 pm (tent.) Caroling  
*Rhinebeck Bank Parking Lot*

5:00 pm

Third Float in Parade

*Stay tuned for further updates.*

### **Sinterklaas**

**December 1**

12:00 – 4:00 pm

at

Third in Rhinebeck

Schedule of performances TBA

Refreshments in Fellowship Hall

### **Advent Potluck Supper & Carols**

**December 2**

6:00 pm

at

Memorial in Rock City

Bring a dish to share

*Fellowship & traditional Christmas spirit*

<b>Service Opportunities</b>	
<p><b><u>Food Program</u></b></p> <p>Help deliver donated food to local needy families.</p> <p>For more information or to volunteer:  <i>Contact Bonnie Reyero  518-697-7608</i></p>	<p><b><u>Children's Community</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Clothes Closet</u></b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Friday  November 2 &amp; December 7  9:30a.m – 12:30p.m.  Third Rhinebeck</p> <p><i>Contact Carol Cronk  889-4168</i></p>
<p><b><u>Crafty Christians</u></b></p> <p>Thursday 11:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.  Third in Rhinebeck <i>Upper Meeting Room</i>  <i>Contact Bonnie Reyero 518-697-7608</i>  <i>All members and friends of the Parish are welcome to participate.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Operation Christmas Child</u></b></p> <p>Shoebboxes are available in the back of each church and are due in church on Nov. 11.</p> <p>Please note: no candy or toothpaste.</p> <p><i>Contact Christine in the Parish Office 876-4471</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Seafarer's International</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Items for Christmas Satchel – in church by November 11</u></b></p> <p>One Sweatshirt – hooded or unhooded (size M-L-XL)  Three Pairs of Socks – thermal or white gym  One T- Shirt (size M-L-XL)  One Can of Nuts or Large Bar of Chocolate  A Holiday or Christmas Card from YOU!</p> <p>You pick the colors, styles and brands, but please no substitutions from the list. The Christmas-at-Sea satchels should be comparable for each member of the crew. And, please provide each satchel with sweatshirts and T-shirts of the same size and label the satchel with a M, L, or XL.</p> <p><b><u>Making Seafarer's Hats</u></b></p> <p>Join in with the Crafty Christians or make them at home and bring them to any one of the three churches.</p> <p><i>Contact Bonnie Reyero  518-697-7608</i></p>	
<p><b><i>Thank you for your participation!</i></b></p>	

Please Note: Our Food Program is available to assist local families on a temporary basis. At this time we are able to take on another 1 or 2 families, depending on the size. Deliveries are available if needed. The items we generally have available are meat, pizza, bread, bread products &, in season, fresh produce.

All information is confidential being shared only with Pastor and the volunteers involved. Should you know of a local family who could benefit from this service, please pass their information on to Pastor Jim or Bonnie Reyero.



## A MESSAGE FROM ST. PAUL'S

Greetings,

As we approach the end of a very busy year at the LPND and St. Paul's and reflect on the past year, first and foremost we continued to proclaim the Good News of Christ's saving grace in Word and deed and came together in many ways, as The Body of Christ evident in our respective communities, which will be documented in the upcoming annual reports. Now however I would ask you to consider ways to use our God given gifts and talents to continue to manifest the presence of Christ in our Parish and beyond. With a willing attitude toward loving service there are many opportunities available that will match our many God given talents. I would urge prayer as and aid to discern how your individual gifts will best be of service. Please contact Pastor Jim or any current council members with any questions as to how we may facilitate your desire to serve.

Yours in Christ,  
Stephen Bucala

## St. Paul's Members & Friend's Birthdays



### November

- 10- Katherine Baldwin
- 15- Clara Wert
- 18- Brian Williams
- 23- Cole Piaget
- 23- Pastor Jim
- 24- Gladys Unson

### December

- 2- Joy Peterson
- 7- Art Smith III
- 7- Frank McConville
- 17- Lorraine Humphrey
- 20- Jennifer Baldwin
- 21- Alicenne Donegan
- 26- Art Smith Jr.
- 26- Evelyn Ness







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## LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS

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and Pastor James Miller

<http://www.lutheranparishnotherndutchess.org/>

**Dated Material Address Correction Requested**

**THE SEASONS OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**



**LUTHERAN PARISH OF  
NORTHERN DUTCHESS**

Parish Council President: Carl Dowden

Memorial Lutheran, Rock City, Council  
President: Tandy Walker  
***Sunday Holy Communion 8:30 am***

St. Paul's Lutheran, Red Hook, Council  
President: Steven Bucala  
***Sunday Holy Communion 11:00 am***

Third Lutheran, Rhinebeck,  
Church Council President:  
Monica C. Gabryszewski  
***Sunday Holy Communion 9:45 am***

Pastor James Miller

*Advent*



**SEE INSIDE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT  
UNCOMING EVENTS**



*Christmas*