

Dear Friends in Christ,

On January 6, the Church celebrates Epiphany, the day that the 3 Wise Men followed that bright star in the sky, that light which the darkness of night could not obscure. It seemed to guide them to Jerusalem, but when they got there, they did not find Jesus, and instead, were told that according to the prophets, the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Martin Luther describes this well:

"The first thing we should learn from this story is that when the Wise Men went to search for Christ, the new-born king, they did not find Him in Jerusalem. Indeed, if they were to find Him at all, they had need to listen to the Prophet Micah. Thereafter, when they received the WORD, they took the road to Bethlehem. Thereupon God gave them the consolation that the star returned as soon as they had got outside Jerusalem, and it shone brightly before them right to Bethlehem, to the door where the Babe was, lying in a manger. Can this be in truth a king's abode? But the saintly men are not misled. Heedless of the poverty and wretchedness of the setting, they fall down before the Babe and worship Him, and open their treasures and present them to Him."

Although we live in darkness, we have seen a great light, one which the darkness has not overcome, and one which the darkness cannot overcome. The Wise Men were directed to Jesus after they received the WORD, and we know that they returned to their homes by a different route, avoiding Jerusalem. And I am sure that upon returning home, they proclaimed all that they experienced. They told others about the Good News which they had experienced: the Messiah, born as an infant child, lying in a manger. May we all continue to increase our relationship with Jesus, always being guided by the WORD through Holy Scripture, and always being ready to bear witness to our Savior and Lord.

In Christ, Pastor Jim

Memorial Lutheran



	<u>January Birthdays</u>		February Birthdays
17	Tandy Walker	11	Arthur Kelly

St. Paul's Lutheran



<u>January Birthdays</u>		<u>February Birthdays</u>	
1	Bob Unson	9	Sandy Lydon
5	Debra Kazantzis	9	Alexandra Piaget
5	James Baisley	10	Ian Buccala
7	Nabil Ayoub	12	Marshall McConville
13	Charlie Lueck	18	Don Campbell
14	Randy Lydon	25	Ruth Queen

15 Glenn Murray

23 Rob Frey

Service Worship Opportunities

Joint Third & St. Paul's Worship Service—January 26, 2025 10:00 am @ Third

Memorial Regular 8:30 am Service

Joint Ash Wednesday Service—March 5, 2025 4:00 pm @ Third

5:00 pm Soup and Sandwich Supper

5:00—7:00 pm Informal imposition of Ashes

Meetings

Third W&M February 4 @ 4:00 pm
Parish Council February 18 @ 6:00 pm
Joint Session of Councils February 18 @ 6:30 pm

Congregational Councils Please look for announcements or check with your Council President

Annual Congregation Meetings

Memorial January 19, 2025 @ 1:00 pm

St. Paul's February 2, 2025 Reports due 1/12/25, Reports available on January 19, 2025 Third January 26, 2025 Reports due 1/13/25, Reports available on January 19, 2025

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

Every Thursday @ 11:00 am! Third Rhinebeck

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

Contact Bonnie Revero 518-697-7608

Please invite a friend to join us!

Operation Christmas Child

The parish collected 32 boxes!

Thank you!

Day Top Village Mission

Collecting gently used seasonal clothing items, all sizes for men and women.

Contact Carole Hack @ 845-867-7344

Thank you for your participation in our Parish mission of service

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

Dated Material Address Correction Requested

To:



KOINONIA

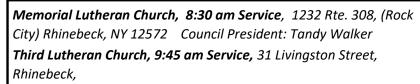
Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess

Pastor James Miller

www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org

Like us on Facebook: lutheranparishnortherndutchess

Contributors: Pastor James Miller, Monica C. Gabryszewski (Third), Tandy F. Walker (Memorial), Brad Patton (St. Paul's), Lorraine



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: Brad Patton

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

Parish Secretary, Alexandra Piaget, Parish office: 845-876-4471





