

JANUARY 2019

# Light *of* Life

## Sledding Party

Saturday, January 5

at

Sheehan Park, Sun Prairie

925-1375 Linnerud Drive

Meet in the parking lot by the baseball diamonds  
at the corner of Linnerud Dr and Bird St



Pray for Snow  
Bring a Sled  
Dress Warmly  
Hot Chocolate Provided

Sponsored By:  
Burke Lutheran Church  
(if no snow we'll pick another date)



### OUR STAFF

#### Pastor

Robert Neubert,  
240-215-5176  
gumby523@yahoo.com

#### Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486  
burkelutheran@att.net

#### Maintenance Engineer

Dave Wisner

#### Nursery Supervisor

A Volunteer

#### BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718  
608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net  
www.burkelutheran.org

## EPIPHANY GATHERING

JANUARY 6, 5:00PM

Join us at Burke Lutheran Church for our first annual Epiphany Gathering! A short worship service with sharing time of local church ministries will kick off the event. Then bring your favorite dish as we enjoy a potluck supper. And at 7:00pm the festivities will end with an Epiphany Bonfire!

Join us for an

## Epiphany Gathering

## ANNUAL REPORTS

DUE JANUARY 4, 2019

Please complete your annual report and turn in to Peri no later than Friday, January 4.

## ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 27th following the 9:00am service. Agenda items include Building update, Board and Committee reports, the 2019 budget, election of Audit and Nominating committee members and representatives to Lutherdale, Oakwood and the Synod Assembly.

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Nativity scene is an iconic image that is almost instantly recognizable by both Christians and non-Christians due to the millions if not billions of product representations of the image sold in nearly every store during the fall and winter holiday season. Whether it is a reverent depiction of our savior's birth or cartoon bears reenacting it, the image is instantly recognizable and as a result has lost the subversive nature of its setting which made it popular in the first place.

The Gospel according to Luke was written and distributed about sixty years after Jesus' death and in that time the Roman empire had come down hard upon the Jewish people due to a revolt that occurred between 66-73AD. This revolt resulted in the destruction of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and nearly one third of the Jewish population losing their lives. They were repeatedly told both before and after this revolt that the Emperor of Rome was the Son of God and that continued disobedience would result in their destruction. In contrast, in the Gospel of Luke God declares that his Son was actually Jesus, a man who many might recognize as a possible prophet who was killed by Jewish and Roman authorities many years earlier. On top of that the Son of God was not born in a palace but was instead born in a barn. This occurred after a poor young couple was forced out of their home in order to take part in a census being conducted by the Roman Empire. Upon their arrival in the husband's home town the couple are then rejected by its residents even though the woman is clearly pregnant and would soon be giving birth, thus they were forced to find shelter amongst livestock. This message of God's presence and love being with those abused by those with power resonated with those early readers, just as it continues to do so today amongst those who find them-

selves tossed around by the whims of those in power. The Nativity is meant to be a powerful message conveying the idea that God is not with those who build their success upon the failures of others, or use their power to abuse. Instead God is with those at the bottom, those who for any number of reasons have lost their way, or have too many obstacles placed before them and are thus unable to find success. As followers of Jesus we are called to serve the victims of power abuses (the Roman census), the refugees (Mary and Joseph denied a room at the inn), the homeless (forced to make their bed in a barn), the 4 out of every 10 children born into low income households here in the US alone (Jesus born in a manger).

Here in the US there are over 500,000 people who find themselves without a home on any given night; throughout the world there are over 65 million people displaced from their homes due to war and famine; it is estimated that over 100 million people around the world are without a home, and that even among those with shelter it is estimated that 1.6 billion live without adequate housing. Along with these statistics it is also important to note that over half of the people represented in these statistics are under the age of 18. These numbers should help remind us that the Nativity Scene is more than just a cute decoration to put on a tree or decorate our home, it is a reminder of our calling as Christians to be with, and support those in need in the cold months ahead, and all year round. Amen

Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Robert

## PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of December, we have remembered the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

David Vincent	Bill Schmidt	Tina Bauman
Chris McFarlin	Lisa Thompson	Pearl Kvalheim
Owen Storlie	Jean Lothe	Ingrid Clark
Lynn Doyle	Ralph Millard	Ross Crosby
Janeen Otis	Jamie Falk	Mary Skinvik
Dave Wisner	Bev Lowe	Tom Hughes
Ayers Family	Darwin Thompson	

Our condolences to the family and friends of Bob Schramer and Chick Lowe.



*We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional*

## NEW MEMBER AFFIRMATION SAVE THE DATE, FEBRUARY 3

Know someone who'd like to join our congregation?

On February 3, we're holding a new member affirmation as part of our regular Sunday worship service.

Why join? It can be a meaningful time for the congregation to officially accept someone new into the family. You come under the pastoral care of this church. And it's an important rite of passage that signifies your entrance into our church. Contact Pastor Rob for info.



## FOOD PANTRY

January's focus is on "Meals in a Can", such as soups, stews, chili, canned meat (tuna, chicken), canned vegetables, canned fruit, etc. Please place items in the designated basket in the Narthex and it will be delivered to the pantry.



## 2018 GIVING STATEMENTS

In mid-January you will be receiving your giving statement for tax purposes. If you receive the newsletter via email your statement will be emailed to you; all others will be mailed. Please review the statement and if you feel there is an error contact the church office to report it.

## UNDECORATING

JANUARY 7



If you are ready, willing and able to help take down our wonderful holiday decorations, please stop in on Monday, January 7, from 9am—noon.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, January 9 at Gus' Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am. Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.



## 2018 BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH CONCESSION TEAM

During 2018, the team volunteered at 6 events at Alliant Energy Center and 7 UW Football games. These efforts combined for approximately \$5,100. About \$4,600 of these funds were designated to the New Building Fund. The rest (10%) went to The Sunshine Place and the River Food Pantry. Twenty-two members and friends helped during 2018. Some only once, others as many as 10 or 11 times. Regardless, everyone's help is appreciated and needed. We fondly remember and miss Diane O'Toole and Nancy Blum. A big thank you to Kim Hanson and Karl Patzer for taking on key roles in our UW Football stand efforts.

The team can always use more volunteers. Some event opportunities were declined because there were not enough volunteers. So if you have thought about joining the team, please ask around to find out how fun much team members have. You can also contact Lon Buss, 608 516-7875 to be added to the team email list.

## LIGHT OF LIFE & SUNDAY BULLETIN ARTICLES

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

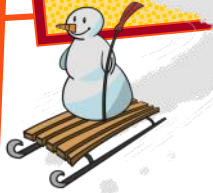
1. Email your submissions to [burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net) (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or 3. Turn it into the church office with Attn: Peri

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays**

**LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 15th of the month**



# Youth & Kids Corner



## SUNDAY SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES

January 6      Classes Resume  
April 14      Pancake Breakfast



## BUTTER BRAIDS UPDATE

Our kids sold 138 butterbraids this year! Thanks for helping us raise \$640—all of which goes towards Youth Retreats and Confirmation Camp!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Serving on your Teach Board:

*Chairperson:* Open position

*Council Representative:* David Hanson

*Superintendent:* Jean Schnick

*Treasurer:* Rudy Nielsen

*Secretary:* Sonja Nielsen

## SHOW OUR CHILDREN THE WAY

We had 17 teachers for our first semester to help our kids get to know our God! We provide the lesson and a lot of help, so you are not on your own. If you are interested in helping out for our next semester, we have a place for you to serve. Even one Sunday is an option. Please contact Sunday School Superintendent Jean Schnick at 608-242-4629 or via email at [floquijean@gmail.com](mailto:floquijean@gmail.com).

## SLEDDING PARTY

JANUARY 5, 2019, 2-4PM

Join us at Sheehan Park, 925-1375 Linnerud Dr, Sun Prairie. We'll meet in the parking lot by the baseball diamonds at the corner of Linnerud Dr and Bird St. Pray for snow, bring a sled, and dress warmly. Hot chocolate will be provided. If we don't have any snow, we'll pick another date.

## KALAHARI FAMILY NIGHT

FEBRUARY 8—9, 2019

Sign up sheets are located in the Narthex. More details to come.



## MISSION TRIP

Mark your calendars for June 16 -22, 2019. We will be heading to Tijuana Mexico to help build homes with Esperanza International.

## OUR MISSION

Esperanza International seeks to cultivate global citizenship through services experiences in working towards a better world.

We partner with Fundación Esperanza de México, a Mexican NGO, who believe that all people deserve safe and dignified housing.

Together, we offer service-learning immersion trips where volunteers help build homes in communities across Tijuana and have the opportunity to authentically engage in the unique border culture of Tijuana, Mexico, through the eyes of its own residents.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is that every individual who participates in our program will be transformed into a person of love, compassion and respect for all other peoples and cultures, and will intentionally act upon that transformation. We envision a world in which communities across borders work in solidarity toward a common dream of sustainable, dignified housing for all people. If you are interested in learning more about this trip, please sign up in the Narthex.



Esperanza International

# JANUARY CALENDAR

The staff at Burke Lutheran meets most Thursday mornings at 9:00am. We will return phone calls after our meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>3</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>4</b> Annual Reports Due	<b>5</b> Sledding Party, 2-4pm
<b>6</b> Worship, 9am Sunday School Choir Practice Epiphany Gathering, 5pm	<b>7</b> Undecorate, 9am	<b>8</b> Council Meeting 6:30pm	<b>9</b> Men's Breakfast, 9am Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>10</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Worship, 9am Sunday School Choir Practice	<b>14</b> Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	<b>15</b> Foundation Mtg 7:00pm	<b>16</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>17</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>18</b> River Food Pantry, 5-8pm	<b>19</b> Dorcas, 9am, at Linda's Ruth Circle, 10am
<b>20</b> Worship, 9am Kids in Service Choir Practice	<b>21</b> Preach Board, 9am	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>24</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Worship, 9am Sunday School Choir Practice Annual Meeting	<b>28</b> Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>31</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm		

Save the Dates:

February 3  
February 8—9  
February 17

New Member Affirmation Service  
Kalahari Family Night  
Talent Show and Chili Cookoff



## Happy Birthday!

Have a birthday in January? Hope your birthday is spectacular, totally cool, really fantastic, wonderful, exciting, majorly awesome, fun-filled, rocking and **HAPPY!**



## Happy Anniversary!

To all who said "I do" in the month of January!

## JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS...



	<b>January 6 9:00am Service</b>	<b>January 13 9:00am Service</b>	<b>January 20 9:00am Service</b>	<b>January 27 9:00am Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Jamie Falk	Susie Kittel Moore
<b>Music Leader</b>	Beni Hupf	Kathy Sandridge	Beni Hupf	Beni Hupf
<b>Music Leader</b>	Bob Rittmann	Dave Wisner	Darrell Foss	Dave Wisner
<b>Communion</b>	Jeannette Gehrke	Darrell Foss	Kids in Service	Sharon Hughes
<b>Communion</b>	Sue Rittmann	Beni Hupf	Kids in Service	Bob Rittmann
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Jean Schnick	Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Sharon Hughes	Bob Boettcher	Kids in Service	Jean Schnick
<b>Prayer Readers</b>	Lucy Wisner Dave Wisner	Tim Wachs Peri Beal	Kids in Service	Linda Schramer Diane Moore
<b>Acolyte</b>	Dani Queiser	Annaleise Romeis	Stephen Bosben	Kaitlyn Schramer
<b>Ushers</b>	Al Klinger Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer and students	Tim Wachs Chris Otis
<b>Greeters</b>	Judy & Roger Martin	Dianne & Randy Copenhefer	Phyllis & Stuart Svoboda	Mary Brantmeyer Kathy Sandridge
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Quilters	Sharon Hughes, Joan Klang, Carla Housner, June Chadwick	Reach Board	Executive Board
<b>Counters</b>	Gloria Lundquist Patrice Neubert	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Julie Clark Linda Hughes	Sharon Hughes Kathy Sandridge
<b>Sunday School</b> Pre K — K 1st—2nd Grades 3rd—4th Grades 5th-6th Grades	John Bosben Linda Truitt David Hanson TBA	Teachers TBA	Kids in Service	Teachers TBA

### INCLEMENT WEATHER, WINTER PARKING

The winter season is coming fast, and with it, lots of ice and snow. Snow is usually easily identified but unfortunately ice often goes unseen until it is too late. In order to keep our members safe we wish to remind everyone to please keep the loading and unloading areas as clear as possible to allow for drop offs, to reserve our limited handicapped spaces for those most in need, and to let us know immediately if you find ice anywhere where people may be walking. To find out if church services are cancelled due to inclement weather, you may call the church office at 244-8486. Thank you, and God's peace be upon all that you do.



### 2018 ENVELOPES

The giving envelopes for 2018 will be available for pickup soon. They will be found on the table in the Narthex. Please help us get these distributed to your families. If you cannot find yours please see Linda Hughes or contact the church office to report it.