



# KOINONIA



January-February 2018  
LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS  
PASTOR JAMES MILLER



Metropolitan New York Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

EVENTS

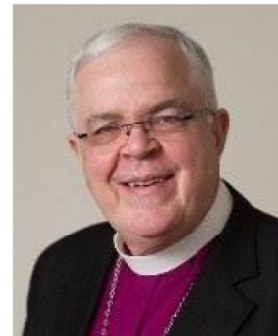
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## Bridges Not Walls Puentes No Fronteras

**Grace and peace to you in the Name of Jesus as we enter 2018 together!**

We are on the bridge – on many different bridges, to be frank. Transitions and changes surround us. So, I invite you to look back with me at two parts of our life together as a Synod that will have a lasting impact.

The Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, "Reformation 500: Committed to Unity in Christ", on November 1 and in a variety of other events, marked this great year. **At this Eucharist, we turned a page in our ecumenical and interfaith relationships.** The response from various communions has pointed to a desire to join us on this bridge and work at tearing down walls that divide. I am pledged to lead us in these efforts drawing on the great spirit experienced at our remarkable commemoration.



The second part of the new vision I have coming across the bridge into 2018 is our renewed and renewing commitment to various issues of immigration and welcoming of all people into our country and our churches. The SENT Committee is working hard at making the renewal happen, and I pledge to be at the center of these efforts. **Not only are we called to build bridges; we are also called to break down divisions by active participation in our communities at all levels.** Lutherans have been central to the work of immigration justice for decades; it is an even greater need today.

These two gifts from 2017 will continue to guide our efforts in 2018. **Our unity as a Synod is a tremendous gift from God, and together we will, by God's grace and power, cross these bridges into a bright future together.**

A blessed New Year to all of you!

+ Bishop Robert Alan Rimbo  
Metropolitan New York Synod, ELCA

## **PASTOR MILLER'S MESSAGE**

When you read this, it will be a 2018, a new year on our calendar. However, as all of you know, the Church year began on December 3 with the beginning of Advent. December has been and continues to be a busy month for all of us. I want to highlight some of the activities which the Parish has been involved with.

First of all I want to tell you about our very successful Christian Education program. As you know, we have been trying a new system where the children are "home-schooled" by their parents and/or grandparents in the materials which we have provided. So far this is working out well and at least one family has asked about ordering the next installment of instructional materials. The Parish has already placed the order, but it is heartening to know that there is interest in following through with the program. I want to continue to give thanks to Patty Piaget who is the Superintendent of the program, and Kay Moore who provides music and teaches hymns to the children. In our December meeting the children assembled a Jesse tree. Actually, the tree itself was made by Kurt Birnbaum and we are thankful for this. He made the tree as well as numerous wooden circles like ornaments. The children then cut out and colored various symbols of Biblical stories which represent the lineage of Jesus. The tree is called the Jesse tree because these ornaments that the children made trace Jesus' lineage back to Jesse, the father of David. God made a covenant with David and promised that his family would always sit on the throne. If they disobeyed God's laws, they would be punished, but God would forever uphold His covenant with the house of David. I encourage you to read about this covenant in 2 Samuel 7, as well as the lineage of Jesus which you will find in the beginning of the Matthew's gospel.

The Parish was happy to present *The 3 ½ Stories of Christmas*, a (sort of) one-man show written and performed by Frank Runyeon. The performance was excellent in all ways and involved many people from the audience taking on roles of Mary, Joseph, the 3 Kings, and King Herod. So actually, I say it was a (sort-of) one-man show, because not only was there audience participation, but there were many, many people were involved in it selling tickets, putting up posters, assembling all the necessary props at St. Paul's, baking cookies and assembling refreshments for after the show. Additionally I want to give special thanks to Carl Dowden who arranged for the special lighting equipment that was lent to us by the Rhinebeck Performing Arts Center. And finally, I want to give very special thanks to Rob Frey who operated the lights, and Ginny Rose who played piano. I doubt they were able to fully *enjoy* the performance because they were hard at work making sure that the right lights shined and the right music was played at the right times. I know that Ginny had eight pages of cues which she had to follow! All in all it was a wonderful production. There were many people in attendance who were from the community but not from our Parish. We are thankful to have extended the Gospel beyond our three congregations.

Looking into the new calendar year, please note that Ash Wednesday will be February 14 and there will be a joint service held at Third Lutheran in Rhinebeck. Additionally, noted that there will be mid-week services in Lent sponsored by the Red Hook Council of Churches. The schedule is as follows:

### **Mid-Week Lenten Schedule for the Red Hook Area Council of Churches**

- February 21 At St. Christopher's & St. Sylvia's Parish; Rev. James Miller preaching
- February 28 At St. Paul's Episcopal & Trinity Parish; Rev. Dr. Eric Titusp reaching
- March 7 At St. John's Reformed Church; Rev. Nikki Edleman preaching
- March 14 At St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Fr. Patrick Buckleypreaching
- March 21 At the United Methodist Church; Rev. Masud Syedullah preaching

In Christ, Pastor Jim

**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE**

*The 3 1/2 Stories of Christmas starring Frank Runyeon*



*The Christmas Angel (Frank Runyeon) and Pastor Jim*

On December 12, 2017 our Parish sponsored Runyeon Productions' *The 3 1/2 Stories of Christmas* starring Frank Runyeon. Weather wise the day was not great. There was rain in the morning with the forecast of dropping temperatures at night. However, that did not deter approximately 80 people from coming to see this production. We had good attendance from members of our Parish, friends and the community. I think it is fair to say all who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Frank Runyeon is a tremendous actor. It is amazing how he mixes scripture and humor.

I heard many positive comments about the performance. A lot of people said they were not sure what to expect from the performance, but were pleasantly surprised!

Financially we did very well. The total income from sales and donations covered 98% of our expenses.

Personally, I would like to thank everyone who helped organize this performance especially, Rob Frey, Chris Murray, Lolly Humphrey, Nabil Ayoub, Linda Woodward, Kathy Rector, Ginny Rose, Pastor Jim, Joanne Plass and Monica Gabryszewski.

Submitted by,  
Carl Dowden, Parish Council Chairperson

<b>Annual Congregational Meetings</b>
<b>Memorial</b> <b>January 21 @ 1:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Third</b> <b>January 28</b> <b>Brunch &amp; Meeting</b> immediately following the 9:45 a.m. worship service
<b>St. Paul's</b> <b>February 4</b> <b>Lunch &amp; Meeting</b> immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service

<b>Annual Reports</b>	
<b>St. Paul's</b>	
Due	January 14
Available	January 28
<b>Third</b>	
Due	January 14
Available	January 21
<b>Council Installation</b>	
Memorial	January 28
Third	February 4
St. Paul's	February 11

<b>Meetings</b>	
<b>Third W&amp;M</b>	<b>Jan. 2 &amp; Feb. 6 @ 4:00p.m. @ Third</b>
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>Jan. 16 &amp; Feb. 20 @ 6:00p.m.</b>
<b>Joint Session of Councils</b>	<b>Jan. 16 &amp; Feb. 20 @ 6:00p.m.</b>
<b>Congregational Councils</b>	<b>Jan. 16 &amp; Feb. 20 following joint session</b>
<i>Council Meetings January @ St. Paul's &amp; February @ Memorial</i>	

<b>Faith Building Opportunities</b>	
<p><b><u>Prayer Gathering</u></b> for <b><u>Healing and Consolation</u></b> 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 4:00 p.m. @ St. Paul's Red Hook <i>Upper meeting room</i></p>	<p><b><u>Christian Ed</u></b>  1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 5:00 p.m. St. Paul's Red Hook</p>
<p><i>Contact Pastor Jim 914-441-4360</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Bible Study</u></b> with Pastor Jim <b>Thursday 10 a.m.</b> Third Rhinebeck <i>Upper meeting room</i> <i>Contact Pastor Jim 914-441-4360</i></p>	<p><b><u>Bible Study</u></b> <b>Thursday 6:30 p.m.</b> St. Paul's Red Hook <i>Downstairs at the church.</i> <b>"Martin Luther's Commentary on Romans"</b> <i>Contact Steve Bucala 758-1228</i></p>
<p><b>All are Welcome!</b></p>	<p><b>Invite a friend!</b></p>

<b>Service Opportunities</b>	
<p><b><u>Crafty Christians</u></b>  <b>Thursday</b> 11:00a.m. – 1:00p.m. at <b>Third in Rhinebeck</b> <i>Upper Meeting Room</i></p>	<p><b><u>Children's Community</u></b>  <b><u>Clothes Closet</u></b> <b>Jan. 5 &amp; 19</b> <b>Feb. 2 &amp; 16</b> 9:30a.m – 1:00p.m. at <b>Third Rhinebeck</b></p>
<p><i>Contact Carol Cronk 889-4168</i></p>	

## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Greetings,

As we begin the new year I would like to update you with what we have been focusing on at your council. Much of our efforts have been on finding a path to replace the asbestos shingles on the Parrish hall and parsonage that will cost roughly \$160,000.00. To this end we have applied for and received a \$40,000.00 matching grant from synod and entered into a contact to sell the firehouse lane property for \$112,000.00 currently under review by the applicable local governmental agencies who need to give approval before final acceptance. There has been only positive feedback to date and we are cautiously optimistic that the approvals will be forthcoming in early 2018.

We along with the Parish hosted a very successful fund raising car wash for this years many hurricane victims, and just recently hosted the presentation of 3 1/2 Stories of Christmas that was well attended by the Parish and members of the community.

Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for February 4th after church and I encourage you all to keep that time

available and make every effort to attend and contribute to the conversation as we with Gods help, consider important issues impacting our path ahead.

Yours in Christ,  
Stephen Bucala

### ANNUAL MEETING

Greetings everyone.

Happy new year. I hope you are all staying warm.

We will have our annual congregational meeting after church on February 4th.. Lunch will be served. I encourage everyone to attend as we review 2017 and discuss our priorities for 2018. For anyone interested in having a more direct impact on our future by serving on the church council please contact me or pastor Jim or any member of the council. Several of our long faithful servants will find it difficult to continue on the council and it is time for others to step up and fill any potential gap.

All annual reports need to be submitted by January 14th so we can have the agenda available for review prior to our meeting. Please send them to Christine Murray at [tlcr@frontiernet.net](mailto:tlcr@frontiernet.net) or [gmurray39@optimum.net](mailto:gmurray39@optimum.net) or hand them directly to Chris at church.

Your in Christ,  
Stephen Bucala



## **January**

- 1- Bob Unson
- 5- Debra kazantzis
- 7- Nabil Ayoub
- 8- Laura Dongan
- 12- Reb. Dennis O'Rourke
- 13- Charlie Lueck
- 15- Glenn Murray
- 21- Emma Walker
- 23 -Rob Frey

## **February**

- 1- Christine Murray
- 9- Alexandra Piaget
- 10- Ian Bucala
- 12- Marshall McConville
- 18- Don Campbell
- 20- Pat Holden
- 25- Mary Lou Williams
- 25- Ruth Queen



<b>Lenten Services and Events</b>		
<b>Shrove Tuesday</b>	<b>Pancake &amp; Sausage Supper 6:00 p.m. @ Memorial</b>	<b>February 13</b>
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>@ Third Soup &amp; Sandwich Supper Worship Service</b>	<b>February 14 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday Lenten Services</b> <b>Red Hook Ecumenical @ 7:00 p.m.</b> Light refreshment and fellowship immediately following the services		
<b>Feb. 21</b>	<b>St. Christopher's RC Church 7411 S Broadway Preacher: Rev. James Miller</b>	<b>Red Hook 758-3732</b>
<b>Feb. 28</b>	<b>St. Paul's Episcopal Church 39 Woods Road Preacher: Rev. Dr. Eric Titus</b>	<b>Tivoli 757-3131</b>
<b>Mar. 7</b>	<b>St. John's Reformed Church 126 Old Post Road North Preacher: Rev. Nikki Edelman</b>	<b>Upper Red Hook 758-1184</b>
<b>Mar. 14</b>	<b>St. Paul's Lutheran Church 7412 South Broadway Preacher: Fr. Patrick Buckley</b>	<b>Red Hook 758-0151</b>
<b>Mar. 21</b>	<b>United Methodist Church 4 Church Street Preacher: Rev. Masud Syedullah</b>	<b>Red Hook 758-6283</b>

*Notice: Worship for Shut Ins is Now Worship Anew: <https://www.worshipanew.org/>*

Pastor Jim's latest sermon can be seen here on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNvFEItQCCI&feature=youtu.be>

**PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR FELLOW HOMEBOUND FRIENDS**

The Hudson Valley Chapter #10 Blue Star Mothers extend a huge thank you to the parishioners of the Third Lutheran Church, Rhinebeck, NY, for their generous candy donation for our troops serving overseas. Please know that all donations are greatly appreciated by both men and women in service during their deployments on foreign soil. Please keep them in your prayers, and again, thank you so much. God bless America!

Sincerely,  
The Hudson Valley Blue Star Mothers Chapter #10



*O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect Light*



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## LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS

**Postmaster: Send returns to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7412 South Broadway,  
Red Hook, NY 12571**

Newsletter Editor: Karla R. Cook

Contributors: Carl Dowden, Monica Gabryszewski, Kathy Rector (Third); Stephen Bucala (St. Paul's); and Pastor James Miller

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

**Dated Material Address Correction Requested  
THE SEASONS OF CHRISTMAS & EPHIPHANY & LENT**



## LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS

Parish Council President: Carl Dowden  
Memorial Lutheran, Rock City, Council  
President: Fred Novak

***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

## SEE INSIDE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

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