

CrossCurrents

Lutheran Church of the Cross (LCMS) ♦ 12801 Falls Road, Rockville, MD 20854



Special Dates

- January 1: New Year's Day
- January 6: Epiphany
- January 8: Baptism of the Lord



From Pastor Harrison...

Epiphany: The Church Knows Where She's Going

"True Christmas joy, no matter how much or how little of it you may comprehend, means that you have Christ, and that you go where He wants you to go." – Kaj Munk, Danish pastor and martyr, 1898 - 1944

We're in the midst of it. The Church Year. The journey from Bethlehem to Bethany, from the Manger to the Mount of Calvary, from the Child born unto us to the Son who will be given up for us.

This month we close out the Twelve Days of Christmas and enter into the season of Epiphany, and with this transition we delve even deeper into the meaning of our Lord's birth for us.

For the Christ child is born to die. We know this. The very rhythm of the Church Year clues us in to this all important fact.

Continued on page 2



PASTOR HARRISON CONT.

The baby born in Bethlehem has come not simply to be adored in the safety of the stable, but to be lifted up on the suffering of the cross and so triumph over the death that we deserve.

This is the joy of the journey. Because Christ is born, there is peace for mankind. For because Christ is born, He is destined to die and rise again.

Perhaps one of the least known dates in the Church Year, is the Feast of St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr, which falls on December 26th, the day after Christmas. As you might remember from the book of Acts, Stephen is the first martyr of the Church, who is stoned under the supervision of Saul of Tarsus in Acts 7:54-60.

The timing of this Feast Day may seem a bit strange. That is, to follow up the joy and exuberance of Christmas morning immediately with the first martyrdom of the Church. And yet, in reality, there is the closest of connections.

The joy that is begun in Christmas, is carried with the baptized throughout the Church Year and life of Christ and unto the feet Holy Week itself, where now, in

the Passion of Good Friday and the victory of Easter Sunday, that joy is perfectly and finally fulfilled.

Christ born for you means that death has lost its sting. It means that Stephen can die in peace because the war is already won. It means that the Christian that the Church, can know where she is going, because she is IN Christ, because she HAS Christ, and so follows where He leads: from birth to the font, from the font to the table, from the table to grave, and from the grave to the Father's Kingdom.

The Way is secure. It is finished. Therefore, as we prepare for another journey through Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week and Easter, be filled with the joy of the Church, that She knows where She is going, for She has Christ and follows where He leads.

Whether your baptismal journey leads you through earthly celebration or suffering, you have the peace to know where you are going, even if you don't see what tomorrow will bring. For in Christ, your tomorrow is in His care, and your eternity is already won.

Pax Domini - The Peace of the Lord,

Pastor Harrison



Have you wondered how flowers appear at our service each Sunday?

Well, a few of us alternate arranging flowers for one Sunday of every month.

If you are interested and would like to help anytime during the year, or would just like to know more, please talk to Marie Williamson, Susan Sverha, Sherry Owens, or Martha Layn.



ELDER'S VIEW

Those who know me know how much I love old movies. One of my favorite lines from any movie is when the Wizard of Oz told the Tin Man "your heart is not judged by how much you love. It is judged by how much others love you". I like this line, since it reminds us not to focus so much on our own feelings, but on how we influence other people's feelings.

How then should we judge someone's faith? Is it by how much they believe, or by how much others are inspired by their beliefs? My hero in this category will always be Mark Lively.

How many of us remember being warmly greeted by Mark Lively on our first visit to LCC? Raise your hand. (My hand is already up). I also remember a time soon after we moved here, when my wife Cheryl was in the hospital. Mark spent the entire day sitting with me while we awaited the outcome of Cheryl's surgery.

So my advice is; if you want to demonstrate your faith, don't worry so much about proving it to God. He already knows.

Be like Mark. Blessings to you!

...Nick Sbrockey,
Elder



LCC Celebrates!

A colorful graphic celebrating a birthday. The words "HAPPY BIRTHDAY!" are written in large, multi-colored block letters. The word "HAPPY" is in red, orange, green, and blue. The word "BIRTHDAY!" is in green, blue, yellow, red, and purple. Two yellow stars are positioned above the word "HAPPY".

Pastor Harrison
Erika Sorrell
Peter David Harrison
John Marlowe
Marie Williamson
Griffin Parr
Bob Michaels
Gloria Jones



Bob & Eleanor Drogge



HappyNewYear2017G.com

Before we etch in stone our resolutions for 2017, let's look at how 2016 treated us. It was definitely an up and down year. It began with Pastor surviving his first Christmas as an ordained servant of God and wondering why his son waited 'til the 11th of January to arrive, denying him that tax deduction. This showed that Peter would be his own person. We've watched him grow into a delightful toddler.

March, God called his servant, Mark to his heavenly home. Many remember Mark as their first impression of LCC with his large-size welcome, one couldn't help to come back. I'm sure we will have the chance to be greeted by him again.

In May, the Dudes had their yard sale, which helped provide funds for various projects such as weeding and mulching around the building and trimming the evergreens out front so we can be seen from Falls Road. June found us starting to address some of the issues befalling our 50 year old building. The original exterior trim around the large stained glass cross was rotted and falling off, as was the cornice trim.. This has been repaired and the cross is secured from the elements. We also elected some new officers to the CA. It is my honor to serve you again as President.

As summer ended, our Christ-centered preschool began its 14th year. Wow!, what a milestone!

Fall saw us lose some (Carol, Ken, Vonnie and Charlie) to relocating. It's always sad to see such active disciples leave. The good news is that we see some new faces, and their children. We sold Christmas trees again this year, with only a half dozen left over. Rainy weather and the fact that Christmas fell on a Sunday (which cost us a weekend) cut down on our sales. The City of Rockville does not let tree sales begin before the 1st of December.

I want to put a plug in for the events committee. A lot of fun events have happened (and will again), such as wine tasting, game nights (Pastor is very competitive, especially at pinochle) and dinner/theater night. Sherry Owens does a great job planning these events, so I know you will have a good time. Even old geezers like me can have a good time. Come and join us and let your hair down (those of us that have hair) J . Oh, did you notice the new stable and star (which is actually in the East)! Thanks to Rick Noll.

Have a great 2017!

JERRY

LCC MEMBER SOLVES 64 YEAR OLD PROBLEM

Problem in Missile Guidance and Control: New Result Will Save Civilian Lives

Mark F. Kruelle, a member of Lutheran Church of the Cross, has solved the missile miss distance problem, a long-standing problem in missile guidance and control. The missile miss distance problem determines the distance between a missile and its target which can either be stationary or maneuvering. An example of a stationary target is a fixed ground target, such as a building; an example of a maneuvering target is an enemy aircraft in flight. The time of flight of a missile from launch to target hit is known at launch time (although it must be continually adjusted in the case of a maneuvering target.)

Given the time of flight of a missile a crucial number related to navigation called the effective navigation ratio must be computed. In 1952 two engineers at Hughes Aircraft, R. R. Bennett and W. E. Mathews, published a technical memorandum in which they solved the missile miss distance problem for effective navigation ratios equal to the whole numbers: 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Some 64 years later, in 2016, Mr. Kruelle solved the missile miss distance problem for both stationary and maneuvering targets for all values of the effective navigation ratio between 2 and 6 inclusive (the range for which the effective navigation ratio is meaningful). Given a particular time of flight for a missile, Mr. Kruelle has demonstrated how to compute the effective navigation ratio(s). There can be more than one effective navigation ratio in the range between 2 and 6 inclusive, and Mr. Kruelle has shown how to find optimal values for zero miss distance (i.e., the missile can be guaranteed to hit its target, except possibly in the case of an air-to-air missile, in which case the missile can be detonated within a “kill radius” that differs depending on the enemy aircraft).

Improved accuracy implies that a smaller warhead can be used to eliminate a target. The use of a smaller warhead in turn implies less collateral damage and fewer civilian casualties, if any, for a typical (i.e. non-nuclear) air-to-ground missile launch.

Mr. Kruelle’s technical report entitled, “A New Formula for Miss Distance that Includes Noninteger Values of the Effective Navigation Ratio for Optimizing Zero Miss Distance,” has been accepted for presentation and publication at the annual Sci-Tech Conference of the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics in January of 2017. Mr. Kruelle’s results are highly theoretical but nonetheless sound results that give great accuracy to a missile launch. However, further work needs to be done to confirm that the solutions are robust when uncertainties in physical measurements and sensor noise are introduced into the solution to the missile miss distance problem. Mr. Kruelle is currently at work addressing t h e s e i s s u e s .

Mr. Kruelle holds a B.S.E. in applied mathematics from Cornell and an M.Phil. in theoretical mathematics from Yale, where he was a Ph.D. candidate from 1986 – 1990 who completed all the requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation.



THOSE WHO SERVE US – JANUARY 2017

For the Month	<u>ELDER</u> Nick Sbrockey	<u>CANTOR</u> David Brase	<u>HOSPITALITY</u> Arnell Caris	<u>RECYCLING</u> Brandon Williamson	
	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
ACOLYTE	Kooba	Banbara	Bertrand	Williamson	Michaels
ALTAR	Michelle Harrison & Pat Schettino	Arnell Caris & Pat Schettino	Cheryl Sbrockey & Susan Sverha	Martha Layn & Sherry Owens	Martha Moore & Sheryl Snesko
COFFEE	Michelle Harrison & Susan Sverha	Arnell Caris & Martha Moore	Martha & Sam Layn	Leah Michaels & Marie Williamson	Norma & Randy Spencer
COUNTERS	Daniel Dausman & Pat Schettino	Melonee & Rick Noll	Norma & Randy Spencer	Bob Michaels & Sheryl Snesko	Sherry Owens & Marie Williamson
GREETERS	Banbara	Bertrand	Sverha	Spencer	Layn
LECTORS	Larry Reynolds	Daniel Dausman	Bryce Kooba	John Franson	Leah Michaels
USHERS	Richard Campana & Bob Michaels	Andy Caris & Rick Noll	Cheryl & Nick Sbrockey	Bryce Kooba & Pat Schettino	Richard Campana & Bob Owens

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON YOUR ASSIGNED DAY, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH SOMEONE ELSE AND CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT LCC@LCCROCKVILLE.ORG AND [MELONEE NOLL AT LCC.MRNOLLS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MELONEE.NOLL@LCC.MRNOLLS@GMAIL.COM) WITH ANY CHANGES. THANK YOU!



Lutheran Church of the Cross

12801 Falls Road ♦ Rockville, MD 20854

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES						
9:00am-LCC Christian Ed. 10:15am-LCC Worship 10:30am-Mustard Seed Ed. 11:45am-LCC Fellowship 12:00pm-Mustard Seed Worship 1:30pm-Mustard Seed Youth	9am-2pm Preschool Pastor's Day Off	9am-2pm Preschool	9am-2pm Preschool 10am Bible Studies Village @ Rockville 3pm Bulletin Announcement Deadline	9am-2pm Preschool 10:15am Preschool Service 4pm Marlowe Music Studio 7:30-9pm Choir Rehearsal		8am-1pm-NHEA 1:30pm Marlowe Music Studio
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES						
New Year's Day 1	2	3	4	5	6	7 7:30-9:30 World for Jesus Ministry
Baptism of Our Lord 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 15 CrossCurrents Deadline!	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i> Day 7:30-8:30pm LCC CA Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4th Sunday after the Epiphany 29	30	31				

LCC=Lutheran Church of the Cross

The Rev. Christopher Harrison, Pastor – Email: PastorHarrison@LCCRockville.org
 Mrs. Brenda L. Bertrand, Commissioned Minister / Preschool Director – Phone: 301-762-7565
 Mr. John A. Marlowe, Minister of Music – Phone: 301-681-5197
 Ms. Shanti Nanan, Office Manager
 Church Phone: 301-762-7565 Fax: 301-762-7551 Email: LCC@LCCRockville.org

WAYS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY



To all who donated drink mixes...



The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen
needs

paper towel and napkins.

Please place your donations in the basket
in the narthex.



The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen

The Lord's Table serves hot nutritious meals daily Monday through Saturday, September to June at 3:30 pm in the Church Hall. Between 60 and 100+ hungry, homeless and needy people are fed each day.

The Lord's Table is a completely volunteer organization and operates solely on donations. Adult volunteers are always needed. If you are over 21 and can make a commitment once a month please phone Mary Canapary at 301-869-7609.



Book Group is on Winter Break

January and February, 2017

Meeting Schedule
(first Tuesday of each month)
resumes March 7, 2017.

February's newsletter will feature the dates/selections for March and April as well as host/discussant.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Sverha at sksverha@comcast.net

CHILDREN OF THE SCHOOL PRESCHOOL

As we return to school in January we hope to pick up from where we left off in December but realize it does take a bit of time to get back into the daily preschool routine. Yet students need structure and anticipate it and actually look forward to it, as do the teachers!

On Mondays in preschool we welcome the new week with a new letter. We take some time from our morning play to investigate what words start with that letter. Before lunch on Mondays we create a weekly placemat with that letter to use each day.

Monday afternoons following a quiet story time we do Monday math exercises to coordinate with the letter of the week.

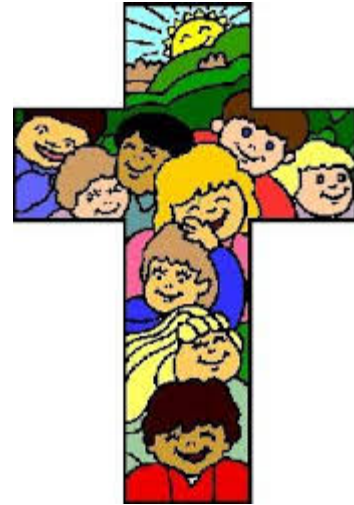
On Tuesdays we talk about the lower case letter of the week and have Physical Education time and once a month we have Pizza Lunch on Tuesdays!

Afternoons on Tuesdays we do our Handwriting practice.

Wednesdays we create our upper case letter project (these can be seen on our moving bulletin boards in the lower level), have a little extra music and show and tell time during our circle time and then make letter head bands/crowns in the afternoon.

Thursday is our “Friday” in preschool! We start the morning with preparing our own snacks (we publish a recipe book at the end of the year) and then we head up to chapel with Pastor Harrison. We also create our lower case letter project and the students have their pictures taken with their projects for our year book.

Thursday afternoon is everyone’s favorite with science time and after school many of our students participate in soccer (outdoors in the fall and spring and indoors in the winter). Feel free to stop by any time and see what we are doing at Children of the Cross!



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

When MCPS is closed, we are closed.

When MCPS has a 2-hour delay, we also have a 2-hour delay and open at 11:00 with regular dismissal times.

If MCPS dismisses schools early, we also will close by 12:00—all students have to be picked up by noon!



COUPLES RETREAT

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES



When is the last time the two of you did something to enrich and revitalize your marriage? Make 2017 the year you resolve to take time to spend a weekend learning how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union. Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends run from Friday night at 8 PM to Sunday around 3 PM and have been enriching marriages for over 40 years! There is a \$100 per couple registration fee; plus toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution toward continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included.

The 2017 Northeast US Weekends are:

March 24-26, 2017 at Toftrees Golf Resort Conference Center -- a peaceful resort nestled in 1500 wooded acres in State College, PA.

April 28-30, 2017 in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique tree-house-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."

September 15-17, 2017 at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown.

October 6-8, 2017 at the Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts. Nestled in the foot hills of the Berkshire Mountains, a hidden gem overlooking Laurel Lake – an hour north of Hartford, CT.

To sign up online, go to: www.GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the \$100 registration fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: fjschamber@comcast.net. Registrations are limited, so act today to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice!

Christian Symbol



Three Chests

Sometimes called “three arks,” this image represents the gifts the Magi brought to the child Jesus: gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2:11). Because Scripture lists three gifts, the legend arose that there were three wise men. But the biblical account doesn’t say how many travelers visited the Holy Family.

Bible Quiz



In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- A. A farmer sowing seed
- B. A mustard seed
- C. Yeast
- D. Hidden treasure
- E. A merchant who finds a pearl
- F. A fishing net
- G. All of the above

Answer: G (See Matthew 13:24-51.)

Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY: **A** **E** **I** **O**

“ _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F
TH _ W _ RLD. WH _ _ V _ R
F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R
W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS.”

J _ HN 8:12, NIV

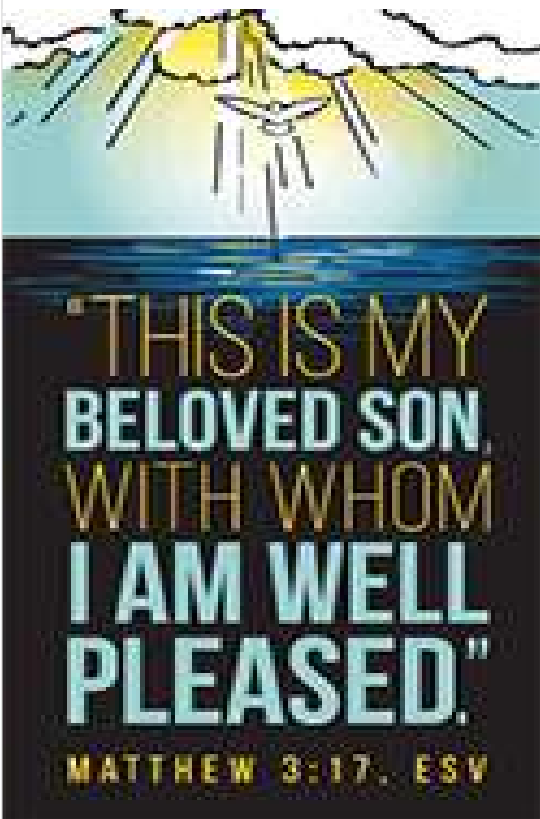


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12801 Falls Road
Rockville, MD 20854-6199

Change service requested
Dated material—Do not hold.



The deadline for the
February 2017 issue of
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Sunday, February 12th



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