

JANUARY 2016

“When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.”

Matthew 2:10

We are now entering the period of Epiphany, that period between the craziness of the Christmas season and the beginning of Lent, the period of solemn preparation for Easter. This season starts off with the last chapter of what we consider to be a part of the Christmas story, the visit of the Magi. Now most of you probably know by now that, by all expert opinions, the magi were not there at the birth of the baby Jesus. In fact, it may have been up to two years later that they arrived to give their gifts and worship the Christ Child. So you can imagine how overwhelmed with joy they really were when the star finally stopped and they realized that they had reached their destination. After that, the scripture says that they returned to their own country. That's it. That's the end of the story for the magi, as far as we know it. But what happened next? How were their lives changed by the arrival of this precious child? How are our lives changed?

It's January and, for some, the only traces of Christmas that still remain are the credit card bills that are arriving in the mail. But Christmas should leave a more lasting impression upon us than just the debt we incurred buying gifts. We, like the magi, may have been overwhelmed with joy on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as we celebrated with friends and family, worshiped at church, and sang praises to the birth of our Savior, but what now? Do we simply return to our regular lives as if nothing has happened? Or do we hold that Christmas joy in our hearts? Do we share it with others, not just on Christmas Day, but Every Day? Epiphany is the time to remember that the light still shines, not the star over Bethlehem, but the Light that came into the world to shatter the darkness of our lives and to give us hope for the future. That Light is Jesus, who changes us, if we allow him to, so that the Light which came into the world can shine through us too.

Pastor Chris

TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus/ (Shortage)</u>
NOVEMBER	\$ 13,878.85	\$ 10,328.34	\$ 3,550.51
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 126,773.49	\$ 154,215.19	(\$ 27,441.70)

THANK YOU

- ❖ Janet Marshall is very thankful and grateful for all the cards and visits she receives from our members.
- ❖ St. Paul's (South Side) Social Ministry Committee writes: Thank you once again for your continued support of our food pantry."
- ❖ ProJeCt of Easton thanks the "congregation for their donation of one car full of groceries to the Interfaith Food Pantry."
- ❖ Bill Ritchie sent a note to Pastor Chris and Church Council: "There are a lot of 'Great People' in the world, but you are by far the **greatest!** Thank you for the gift basket."
- ❖ The MOMS Club of Easton gave us a card thanking us for letting them use the Church Hall for their Christmas party.

- ❖ *Pastor Chris and family extend a heartfelt thank you for the monetary Christmas gift given to them on Christmas Eve.*
- ❖ *The staff (Nancy, Sallie, and Carol) also thank all the members who donated to their Christmas gifts! What a nice gesture that enables them to feel truly appreciated for all they do.*

STEWARDSHIP

2016 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Please pick up your new church envelopes. They are available on the table in the Narthex. They are arranged in ALPHABETICAL order. Consider taking those of a neighbor or friend to deliver.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

All Annual Reports are due in the church office no later than Monday, January 4, 2016.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual meeting for 2016 will be held on Sunday, January 24 (snow date January 31), immediately following the worship service. Please plan to stay for this important meeting.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

INGATHERING

Sending a great big THANK YOU to all who volunteered for the Ingathering! Whether you donated a bottle of shampoo or carried the boxes, set up tables or washed them once they were set up—thank you, thank you, thank you!! We were a **TEAM** (**T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore)!

SECOND SUNDAY

Please remember that the second offering received during worship on the second Sunday of each month is used to support various social ministry agencies and issues in our local community, Synod, E.L.C.A., and our world. In December, we collected \$184.00 for ProJeCt's Literacy Program. **In January, the recipient will be Lutheran Congregational Services.** Please continue to support these important programs.

For the year 2015, our Second Sunday offerings have totalled \$2,326.30! This is a large chunk of change that we have donated to 12 worthwhile organizations. If you have any suggestions of other worthy groups, please see Cheryl Nielsen.

SAVE THE DATE – Thursday, June 16, 2016
Iron Pig; at Coca Cola Park (game at 7:05 PM)

JANUARY

PARISH SECRETARY'S HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

IN THE EVENT OF CANCELLATION

If it is necessary to cancel some of our activities, for whatever reason, please tune in to WFMZ, channel 69 on your TV, or call the church office and select option 226.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Office: sp3office@rcn.com

Pastor Chris: sp3pastor@rcn.com

Bill Ritchie always keeps our web page current. If you have information you want added to the page, email Bill at billritchie@rcn.com. The *Herald* is also available on-line at www.stpaulsthird.org

**The *HERALD* DEADLINE for
FEBRUARY is JANUARY 20.**

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Cut out the following information and keep it in your wallet!

St. Paul's III Lutheran Church
2561 Newburg Road, Easton, PA 18045
(610) 258-0875
Pastor Chris Druckenmiller
emergency contact: (610) 331-6717

Hospital Codes:

Easton: L35

St. Luke's: 316

Lehigh Valley, Allentown General, Muhlenberg: 316

If you are admitted to the hospital, please give them our code so they can notify us of your admittance. A family member should still inform the church office so visitation arrangements can be made.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

There will be a new Sunday School class for 3-year-olds starting this month. If anyone is interested in helping out, please see Kelly Aldinger.

COMMUNITY GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP

HOLIDAY DINNER

There were about 80 people attending who not only enjoyed the delicious roast beef dinner, baked potato bar, and many scrumptious desserts but also the great entertainment provided by Fred and Nancy Broadbent. Thank you to everyone involved who helped get this dinner together, especially the members of the Community Growth & Fellowship Committee.

HOAGIES, HOAGIES, HOAGIES!

The Hoagie Sale is an ongoing fundraiser. Tickets for hoagies from Noto's Deli can be purchased from Shirley Stillo for \$5 each. For the month of December, we sold 62 hoagies for a profit of \$124.00. Our total profit for 2015 was \$254.00! Please continue to support this fundraiser.

PRAYER HEALING BLANKETS

The Healing Blanket Ministry here at St. Paul's III is for everyone--whether a church member or not. The idea behind the blanket is that the person be healed in body, mind, and spirit. They are on the table in the Narthex. Please sign the green book when you take one.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Remember to bring canned and non-perishable goods for three area food banks—ProJeCt, Salvation Army, and St. Paul's Lutheran South Side (12 Baskets Full). There is a list of needed items next to the Food Bank basket on the table in the Gathering Area. If you forget, you can always drop your spare change in the bucket near the center table.

CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

The Center (formerly the SPCA) is always in need of towels, sheets, blankets, kitty litter, cat and dog food, laundry detergent, bleach, etc. It depends almost solely on donations for its operation.

Remember, animals are no longer euthanized unless absolutely necessary (illness, history of bad behavior). If you need any items picked up, contact Georgi Weiser.

ST. PAUL'S STITCHERS

This small group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall. A knowledge of sewing is not required. We make tie-quilts which are donated to Safe Harbor. We also prepare and deliver a lunch for Safe Harbor on that day. Please join us for a morning of fellowship and fun!

MAKE SOME MUSIC!

We are always looking for more people to join our music programs. If you'd like to see what the Choir, Bell Choir, or Praise Band is all about, each offers a trial period before requiring a commitment. Please consider joining! If you have questions, please see Pastor Chris or Nancy Broadbent.

Schedule of People Serving in

JANUARY 3

10 AM – CHRISTMAS 2

Acolyte	<i>Adult Volunteer</i>
Ushers	Betty Buckley, Sallie Smull, Daryle Davidson, Tyler Aldinger
Lay Reader	Rich Weiser
Communion Assts.	Harold & Betsy Ziegler, Margaret LaDuca
Prayer Partner	Bev Brodhead
Greeter	Ron Pflugler
Counting Team # 1 A	

JANUARY 10

10 AM – BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Acolytes	Rich Weiser, Margaret LaDuca, Micki Stout
Ushers	Georgi & Rich Weiser, Vincent Guiducci, Shirley Stillo
Lay Reader	Al Arthur
Communion Assts.	Daryle Davidson, Al & Barbara Arthur
Prayer Partner	Stephanie Druckenmiller
Greeters	Margaret & Bob Ronn
Counting Team # 2 A	

JANUARY 17

10 AM – EPIPHANY 1

Acolyte	Bethany Druckenmiller
Ushers	Margaret LaDuca, Bev Brodhead, Joy Sales, Sallie Smull
Lay Reader	Rich Weiser
Communion Assts.	Cheryl Nielsen, Georgi Weiser, Stephanie Druckenmiller
Prayer Partner	Carol Jiorle
Greeters	Ed & Sue Becker
Counting Team # 3 A	

JANUARY 24

10 AM – EPIPHANY 3 (Contemporary)

Acolyte	<i>Adult Volunteer</i>
Ushers	Harold & Betsy Ziegler, Jim & Laura Dorsa
Lay Reader	Jordan Druckenmiller
Communion Assts.	Margaret LaDuca, Micki & Jeff Stout
Prayer Partner	Stephanie Druckenmiller
Greeters	Ned & Pattie Corcoran
Counting Team #4 A	

JANUARY 31 10 AM – EPIPHANY 4

Acolyte *Adult Volunteer*
Ushers Tyler Aldinger, Sallie Smull,
 Barbara Miller, Carol English
Lay Reader Tyler Aldinger
Communion Assts. Bruce & Karen Fretz, Margaret LaDuca
Prayer Partner Bev Brodhead
Greeter Sandy Matyger
Counting Team # 1 B

Schedule of People Serving in

FEBRUARY 7 10 AM – EPIPHANY 5

Acolyte *Adult Volunteer*
Ushers Jim Dorsa will assist Boy Scouts
Lay Reader Boy Scouts
Communion Assts. Harold & Betsy Ziegler, Bev Brodhead
Prayer Partner Margaret LaDuca
Greeters John & Joyce Gosch
Counting Team # 2 B

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

1	Richard Drescher	18	Peggy Bickel
2	Neil Frey	19	Katie Miller
3	Bethany Dorsa		Kathy Grier
4	Kim Lacy	20	Russell Neff
6	Brett Stout		Decima Assise
12	George Short III		Barbara Arthur
	Tom Young		Hazel Dorsa Araujo
	Robert Mowry	22	Doris Hall
16	Camryn Ealer		John Gosch
	Kathleen Bennett	23	John Gamlin
17	Aleana Brodhead	28	Alyson La Duca
	Matthew Siedt	30	Edwin Van Horn Sr.
18	Andrew Adams		Ann Adams
	Harry Lomping	31	Arlo Babb

NO ANNIVERSARIES

(that we know)

*We apologize if we missed your birthday or anniversary.
Please notify the office with any additions and/or corrections.*