

# *Buffalo Lutheran & Tower City Lutheran Churches*

## **JANUARY 2014 PARISH POST**

### ***Comments from Pastor Chris . . .***

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from the Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

During the cold month of January, the Church celebrates the season of light: Epiphany. This day brings the Christmas season to a close and commemorates the Magi's visit to Christ. The word epiphany comes from a Greek word which means "manifestation" or "appearance". This day is neither a simple recollection of the Magi nor the truth they confessed in seeking out our Lord. Instead, it marks an important part of what Christ came to accomplish, namely, the salvation of the entire world. We call this day Epiphany because on it Christ was made known to the Gentile world, represented here by the enigmatic astrologer-kings of the East.

The Christian Church has developed a number of customs associated with this day. From at least as early as the fourth century, it has been customary for the faithful to have their homes blessed during the season of Epiphany. Chalk is used to mark the doors of the house with the year and the letters "C", "M", and "B", which stands for *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means, "May Christ bless this house." These letters are also associated with the traditional names of the Magi: Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar.

The season of annual meetings is upon us: Buffalo held their meeting last month and St. Paul's will have theirs this month. As we look back on the year, let us also look forward into the coming months. What would you like to see your parish do this year? Are their ministries that you would like to see started? People that should be reached out to? Evangelism that should take place? I invite all of you to think about this and submit any ideas that you have to the councils to help them decide on the direction that we should focus on for the coming year.

Finally, I would like to say, "thank you!" for all the Christmas cards and gifts that we received. Your generosity was unexpected and most appreciated! As always, if you need anything feel free to email me at [cbrademeyer@gmail.com](mailto:cbrademeyer@gmail.com) or call the parish office.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Chris

BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FINANCIAL NEWS  
Watch for the Buffalo Lutheran  
Financial Report next month.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER FINANCIAL NEWS  
Ending Balance \$1886.16

***December Attendance Figures at Buffalo Lutheran Church  
Please accept apologies for absence of December attendance figures.***

*The Church secretary has been taking an "interesting" vacation! I am looking forward to sitting in my regular office chair and realize every day how much I've missed being able to do regular work. Please accept my genuine thanks, for caring about me, for prayers for healing. Every time I think that a vacation would be so much fun I find some odd or complicated condition that forces me to stay home, not drive, and have absolutely no appetite. God has made me, once again, very aware how very blessed I am. Thanks so much to my family and to my very special friends, to Corey & Kristi who must be very tired of taking me where I need to go and listen to me complain without complaint and to my four pretty close to perfect grandchildren, willing to accept whatever kind of holiday we celebrate.*

*Thanks to all the help in the office and the sincere caring from Pastor Chris— I don't want to forget anyone so I will bring a close to my note---with God's blessings!*

*Bette Hovelson*

OUR ST. PAUL'S TREASURER HAS OUR 2013 OFFERING TOTALS READY FOR ANYONE THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED, OR FOR TAX PURPOSES. JENNI CAN MAIL THE RECEIPTS FOR ANYONE INTERESTED (BY JANUARY 1 )

***ESPECIALLY FOR BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBERS . . . As most of us are aware the cost of the expenses for the Parsonage will now be shared, as has been proposed by both churches, half and half. The Buffalo Lutheran Council has asked that that the Buffalo Lutheran members be aware that half of the cost of new windows for the Parsonage will come to about \$5,000 for each church. Please have your contribution for this expense be made by March 1. It would be more understandable for members to earmark your check for the "window" purpose or made payable in an envelope marked in the same way,***

## JANUARY PARISH NURSE NOTES

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*Dear Family and Friends,*

*I want to wish all of you a Blessed Christmas. Thank you for all that you do to help Community Health Ministry meet the needs of the community. May the gift of the Christ child fill your hearts with peace, healing, thankfulness and gratitude.*

*Gwen Fraase RN*

Dear Family and Friends,

Well, it's here again....winter...cold weather, icy roads and inclement weather. We have all heard it before BUT it is important that everyone should carry a Winter Survival Kit in their car. In an emergency, it could save your life and the lives of your passengers. Here are some things you need in case you become stranded. Store items in the passenger compartment in case the trunk is jammed or frozen shut. (You can make your own kit or purchase one from the store and add your own personal and perishable items.)

- windshield scraper and small broom
- flashlight with extra batteries (reverse batteries to avoid accidental switching and burnout)
- battery powered radio
- water
- snack food including energy bars, candy bars, raisins...canned food and a can opener...crackers, cereal....eating utensils... foods that can be safely eaten cold.
- matches and small candles
- extra hats, socks and mittens
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- **Necessary medications**
- blankets or sleeping bag
- tow chain or rope
- road salt, sand, or cat litter for traction
- booster cables
- emergency flares and reflectors
- fluorescent distress flag and whistle to attract attention
- a shovel
- Cell phone and cell phone adapter to plug into lighter. \*\* Remember if a cell phone is charged, a **911** call will get through. You do NOT need a "plan" or phone card. After you call 911, do not hang up, listen and follow their instructions.
- Inform people for your travel pattern

Don't expect to be comfortable: You want to survive until you're found.

Peace in Him,

Gwen Fraase RN

Parish Nurse

Community Health Ministry

<http://readywisconsin.wi.gov/winter/HowToMakeAKit.asp>

I wish to thank those who sent cards, called me, and visited me while I was hospitalized in Fargo and later recuperating at home in Tower City. Thanks especially to my children Gary, Diane, and Carol for the loving care they gave me and the time we shared.  
God's Blessings,  
Betty Kappel

### **Upcoming January Events**

**JANUARY SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AT 9:00 AM, FOLLOWED BY SUNDAY SCHOOL "LITURGY"** Bible study follows worship

Every Wednesday: Confirmation classes meet at the high school! 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades meet from 1:40-2:30 PM; 9<sup>th</sup> grade meets from 2:35-3:25 PM

Jan. 5: SPL WELCA meets after worship  
SPL COUNCIL meets-check on time

Monday, Jan. 13: ANNUAL COMMUNITY HEALTH MINISTRY MEETING at 7:30 PM at St. Thomas Hall (All welcome)

Nov. 8: BUFFALO LUTHERAN COUNCIL meets at 7:00 PM

Nov. 19: ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING at St. Paul's; No ST. STEPHAN VISITATION GROUP STUDY;

Double-check Naomi Circle meeting time and place.