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Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

www.holyredeemer.church

Growing to and for Christ!

January 2020

In this Issue:

	<u>Page</u>
Outreach	2
Adult News	3
Youth News	5
Events	6

When the [magi] saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. Matthew 2:10-12

Dear Beloved Community of HRLC,

Our January is full of bright stars. The twelve days of Christmas burst into the bright blessing of Epiphany on January 6. As Matthew tells the story, the magi, wise ones who were likely priests and not kings, were Gentiles from another place and culture. In their astrological studies, they determined that a holy child had been born so then went off to seek for this child. When the star stopped, they were filled with joy and therein offered their gifts to honor the baby. Even in the midst of their joy, though, their lives were also wrapped in elements of danger. Having been warned in a dream about the treacheries of Herod, they went home by another road.



During the celebration of the season of Epiphany, we look to bright starlight to pierce the darkness where there may be danger and fear. We search for these manifestations to give us hope and to point us always to Christ. So, when a child is rescued from the darkness of homelessness and worry – there is light. When a mother finds hope and a way to feed her hungry children through the kindness and generosity of others – there is light. When an elder in a care center experiences the blessing of a kind hug and feels less alone – there is light. When the good news of God’s love in Jesus is shared with one who sits in depression and their hope is restored – there is light.

As God’s love has been made manifest in Christ Jesus, so too, we are called to radiate that light and love wherever we go, even sometimes in the midst of danger and darkness. As we enter into this New Year, we hope to meet our neighbors around Holy Redeemer in new and different ways. Hopefully, we’ll be able to brainstorm and pray together about our intentional ways to share the light of Christ out and about. The Council is in discernment about meeting every now and then with folks at a place (institutions or work places) off-site to learn more about their hopes and dreams, their struggles and challenges as we offer to pray for them and support their work. We might meet at a nursing care center or at a school. We might venture out to meet our neighbors at another place of worship – all for the sake of bearing the light of Christ. We invite you into this conversation and this meaningful experience of walking in the light of Christ and sharing that light in new ways.

We’ll hear more about this at our annual meeting on January 26 and we urge you all to make every effort to gather for conversation, deliberations about our constitution and of course, sharing a delicious meal together after our important work is done. Even though the pathways in our lives may be difficult, let us experience and be overwhelmed by the joy of seeing Jesus – in bread and wine, in the water and the word and in one another!

Epiphany’s bright blessings,
Pastor Jayne Thompson

Outreach

Grateful Grannies Wrap-Up

Thank you from the Outreach Committee & the Grateful Grannies for a very successful Christmas project. We had 70 gift tags on the tree and all 70 were taken. Thanks to those of you who joined us at Target on December 8 to purchase gifts for the children. We appreciate all Target does for us – giving us a 10% discount and providing us with coffee, rolls, bars, etc. A big thank you to Harold & Daphne Miller for the \$250 Thrivent gift card. Daphne used it to purchase clothes at Penneys.

On December 16, 10 women joined the Grannies to wrap the presents. Those wrapping gifts were Shari Singelstad, Joyce Black, Diane Torrey, Jeri Hansen, Kay Forest, DeAnna Braun, Pam Braun Berg, Tracy Kisling, Ruth Tegatz, and Judy Toy.

The Grateful Grannies deeply appreciate all we do to help them provide for the needy children. Thank you to Joyce Black for telling us about this very worthy project.

The Outreach Committee

Loretta, Nicole, Arlan, De, Jan, and Judy

4th Sunday Offering

In January, our designated fourth Sunday offering will be on January 26. The proceeds from this Sunday offering will be designated to the Souper Bowl of Caring.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is youth across the nation working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Souper Bowl football game. *“Using the energy of the Souper Bowl to mobilize youth in a united national effort to care for people in their local communities who are hungry and those in need.”* HRLC raised money to benefit the Linn Community Food Bank.

Mission of Hope Meal

Our congregation will serve the noon meal at Mission of Hope on Thursday, January 16. The meal will be scalloped potatoes and ham.

If you are able to donate and/or volunteer to serve, please sign up on the main bulletin board in the narthex. All donations are needed by Wednesday, January 15.

Thank you to everyone who helps with this important project!

Outreach Committee: Arlan and De Braun, Nicole Hubbell, Loretta Shannon, Judy Toy and Jan Overland



Mission of Hope Thank You

Thank you to Daphne & Harold Miller for the \$250 Thrivent gift card that was used to purchase food for our November Mission meal. Thank you to Shari Singelstad's friend who gave us 20 pounds of ground beef. That was an unexpected and appreciated gift.

Thank you to Rick & Amy Renner for providing the potato bacon soup for the December meal. Thank you to Dave Anderson for coordinating the soup delivery with Heinz Foods.

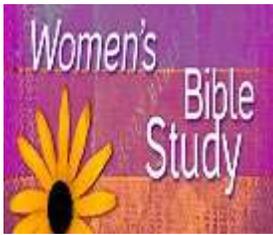
Our thanks to those of you who serve each month and to those of you who are always willing to purchase food items or bake bars, cookies, etc. We couldn't provide these meals without you.

The Outreach Committee

Loretta, Nicole, Arlan, De, Jan, and Judy

Adult News

Women's Bible Study



Bible Study will meet at the church on Thursday, January 2 at 9:30 a.m.

The Bible study for this month is: **We Are Called** by Kathryn A. Kleinhans. Session #1 is: "Hearing

God's Voice". **Theme Verses: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Isaiah 6:1-8; 2 Kings 22:8-20 or 2 Chronicles 34:14-28; Judges 4 & 5 and Jeremiah 1:1-8.**

All are welcome to join us!!

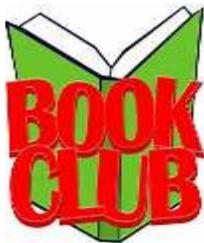
(Copies are available in the WELCA notebook on the shelf under the women's bulletin board or better yet, subscribe to the Gather magazine which contains wonderful articles besides the Bible Study. There is a subscription card on the Women's bulletin board for your use.)

Craft Day

The Craft Women will let you know when the women will start meeting again.



WIGS (Book Discussion Group)



WIGS will meet on **Thursday, January 9, at 9:00 a.m.** at the church. The hostess is Jeri Hansen.

The book for the month is: **Instinct** (formerly **Murder Games**) by James Patterson.

All are welcome to join us. The reading list for 2020 can be found on the Women's bulletin board.

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

Quilt sewing will meet twice in January: Tuesdays, January 14 and 28, at 9:30 a.m. Thanks to all who help with the quilt sewing – Over 100 quilts were given away and/or sold at the Holiday Fair in 2019.



Senior Saints Coloring

Wednesday, January 15 – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

The Senior Saints Coloring Group will meet at Scooter's Coffee at 2300 Edgewood Road SW, Cedar Rapids. All are welcome to join!



Let's Do Lunch

The Fourth Thursday Out to Lunch Group will meet on Thursday, January 23, 11:30 a.m.

**at Tommy's Restaurant
(Edgewood Rd NW)**

Address questions to Jeri Hansen.

Memorial Committee

New Advent paraments have been purchased by the Memorial Committee. The monies used to purchase the paraments came from monies given in memory of Evelyn Nuehring.

The Memorial Committee
Lee, Phil, Daphne, and Judy



Stephen Ministry

Feeling the Warmth as Prayers are Answered

Sometimes it takes more than a parka or a blanket to keep a person warm. Sometimes it takes the presence of a caring Christian friend.

Stephen Ministers share the warmth of God's love with those who need it most: the grieving, the lonely, those struggling with a life crisis.

Thank you for your prayer support as Stephen Ministry continues to be a real part of this congregation's warm and compassionate caring of others in Christ's name.

In Faithfulness and Grace, God certainly continues to answer prayers.

In this new year be looking for heart-warming answers to prayer for growth in this ministry. One place you might find them is in this year's Annual Stephen Ministry Report at Holy Redeemer's Annual Meeting!

Highlights of 2019 include...

- A 50-hour training and a Sunday commissioning of two more Stephen Ministers
- The Stephen Ministry team attending both City-Wide Continuing Education programs offered
- Meeting twice a month for Continuing Education and Supervision sessions
- An estimate of 215 hours of one-to-one Christian care to members of Holy Redeemer
- Regular updates to Council and Congregation
- Skits and educational sessions so that Congregation Members might be ready to offer a Stephen Minister to someone in need
- A 'Fall Call' invitation to encourage becoming a Stephen Ministry

Thank you for your continuing prayer and support. It will be a warm caring presence for the Stephen Ministers and their Care Receivers in 2020 and beyond.

'Praise be to the Lord God, ...who alone does marvelous deeds.' Psalm 72:18

A New Constitution? Really? And, You Want Me to Read It?

Boring...that's what Constitutions are... boring...

I thought some Schoolhouse Rock stuff might help spice this up (♪I'm just a bill...♪) but nothing I could find looked like it would help.

But boring hasn't deterred certain members of your Council (including Pastor and the Council President!) from their diligent efforts to incorporate the new 2019 ELCA Constitution Model and SE Iowa Synod edits into a new Constitution for us.

Work and edits and reviews and phone calls and emails and typing and all sorts of stuff has been going on for a while now, to correctly put our new Constitution together into a form that both the Synod and you, the Congregation, will approve.

But, to approve it, you need to read it.

Which brings us back to the first paragraph...reading a Constitution can be (...gratuitous yawn...) boring.

We need you to hang in there with us and help us get this thing to the finish line. Please.

Read-ahead working copies of our new Constitution will be made available for the January Round Table sessions. We will work with the Fellowship Committee to ensure there will be enough coffee and sugar available to help keep you awake through your reviews. Council members working on the Constitution will be available to answer your questions during the Round Table sessions and by phone or email if you think of something after you get home.

Thanks in advance for your help and support and understanding.

David Adams, Council Secretary

Pastor's Hours at HRLC

Generally, the Pastor is available Tuesday-Friday at HRLC mid-mornings (around 10:00 am) through mid-afternoon (around 4:00 pm) each day. Since her schedule varies from week to week, **it's best to contact her to arrange a visit or meeting.** You may text or call her cell phone: 320-492-6377 or email pastor@holyredeemer.church. She will get back to you as soon as she is able!

Fellowship Line Dancing Jan. 13

The Fellowship Committee continues to meet monthly for line dancing & fellowship at Wild Hogs. They are currently meeting in Walford the second Monday of each month.

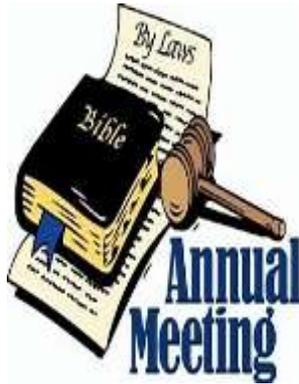
It is open to all – from children to adults and we will meet again on January 13.

The fun starts at 5:00 p.m. and you can eat at Wild Hogs if you don't want to cook at home. Stay as long as you want.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 26, at 10:30a.m.

The meeting will be followed by a potluck meal at 11:45 a.m. Bring a dish or side to share as well as your own table service.



At the meeting, we will recap our past year and look ahead to the exciting things God has planned for our congregation in 2020.

The council along with its new members, will hold an organizational meeting directly following the annual meeting.

Endowment Committee Funds

The Endowment Committee is now accepting applications to have the 2019 funds be distributed during 2020.

If you have something you would like to see the funds used for, please complete an application that is pinned on the bulletin board. Please see a council member if you have any questions.

Church Family News

If you have some news you want to share about your family, such as a wedding or a move, please contact the office with this information and ask that it be included in the next newsletter.

Church Safety & Energy Savings

As the new year begins, we would like to remind everyone to help keep the church safe and the energy bills low.

If you are the last to leave the building, please take a couple minutes to walk through the church to make sure all the lights are turned off, all fire doors are shut, and exterior doors are locked.

These small steps will help keep the church safe and the energy bills low. Thank you!



Thank You from Krueger Family

The Krueger family would like to thank all those who took time out of their busy Christmas schedules to send Joyce Krueger a card. Each and every card made her smile and it brightened her day. She feels very blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Please remember Joyce in your prayers. Thank you.

Hospitalized Members

If you should become hospitalized and would like Pastor Jayne to visit you, please remember to let the hospital know you are a member of Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church when you are admitted or have someone contact the office. If you have a loved one you would like Pr. Jayne to visit, please contact the office or Pr. Jayne. Thank you!

Youth News

Thank You!

Thanks to all our youth (and adults) who helped to make the Christmas Program a huge success. We enjoyed hearing the Christmas story through the voices of our youth and shared in well-loved Christmas songs by the congregation.

Following the service, we had an opportunity to fill our stomachs. Thanks to all those that brought cookies in for the exchange and for those that purchased cookies to raise money for our youth.

Sunday School

In January, Sunday School will meet on January 26 with activities for the children during the Annual Meeting.

Contact Tracy Kisling at tjtracykisling@hotmail.com for more information.



Youth Activities Calendar

Parents, there is a youth activity calendar located on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Please fill in the different activities your child is involved in or you may email your activities to Diane in the office.

The hope is to have members come out to support the GREAT things our youth are involved in.



Events

- Jan. 1:** New Year's Day – Office Closed
- Jan. 5:** 10:15 am Round Table Discussions
- Jan. 8:** 6:15 p.m. Activity
7:00 p.m. Service
- Jan. 16:** Mission of Hope Meal
- Jan. 26:** Annual Meeting & potluck meal
Sunday School for children
- Feb. 3:** 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- Feb. 4:** 12:30 p.m. Card Players
3:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- Feb. 5:** Activity and Worship Service
- Feb. 6:** 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Executive Meeting
7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
- Feb. 9:** 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Feb. 10:** Line Dancing @ Wild Hogs
- Feb. 11:** 3:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

- Feb. 12:** Activity and Worship Service
- Feb. 13:** 9:30 a.m. WIGS
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Feb. 17:** 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- Feb. 18:** 12:30 p.m. Card Players
- Feb. 19:** 9-11 a.m. Senior Saints Coloring @ Scooter's
Activity and Worship Service
- Feb. 20:** Mission of Hope Meal served by Congregation
- Feb. 23:** 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
Coffee w/Council
- Feb. 25:** 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. DUO Day
3:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6:00-8:00 p.m. Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday Celebration
- Feb. 26:** 6:15 p.m. Activity
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- Feb. 27:** 11:30 a.m. Women's Let's Do Lunch



Happy New Year!!
From the staff at Holy Redeemer

Grateful Grannies Christmas Wrapping



Christmas Program





Ministry of the Month

Greeter	Jan 5	1 NEEDED
	Jan 12	Judy Toy
	Jan 19	1 NEEDED
	Jan 26	1 NEEDED
Usher	Jan 5	Marc & Lora VanBuren
	Jan 12	Ron Hansen & Phil Hansen
	Jan 19	Mark & Marti Marz
	Jan 26	Gordy & Jean Stelling
Com. Asst	Jan 5	Jeri Hansen
	Jan 12	Shari Singelstad
	Jan 19	Ron Taylor
	Jan 26	Greg Forest
Com. Runner	Jan 5	Linda Singelstad
	Jan 12	Judy Toy
	Jan 19	Shari Singelstad
	Jan 26	Jeri Hansen
Lay Reader	Jan 5	Jeri Hansen
	Jan 12	David Adams
	Jan 19	Marti Marz
	Jan 26	Kay Forest
Acolyte	Jan 5	TBD
	Jan 12	TBD
	Jan 19	TBD
	Dec 22	TBD
Counters	Jan 5	Susan Adams & Jan Schroeder
	Jan 12	David Adams & Dave Anderson
	Jan 19	2 Needed
	Jan 26	2 Needed
Com. Prep	Jan 5	LaVonne Hunter
	Jan 12	Marti Marz
	Jan 19	Le & Dick Smith
	Jan 26	Jean Stelling
Altar Care: Jeri & Ron Hansen		
Visitor Calling Schedule: Jan Overland		

January 2020 at a Glance

Jan 1 (Wed)	New Year's Day – Office closed 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
Jan 2 (Thur)	6:30 pm Executive Meeting 7:00 pm Committee Meetings
Jan 5 (Sun)	9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Round Table Discussions
Jan 6 (Mon)	6:00 pm Steph. Min. Supervision 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Jan 7 (Tues)	12:30 pm Card Players 3:00 pm Bible Study
Jan 8 (Wed)	6:15 pm Activity 7:00 pm Worship Service
Jan 9 (Thu)	9:30 am WIGS 7:00 am Council Meeting 9:00 am Worship w/Gwen Ehler on piano
Jan 12 (Sun)	Food Bank Weekend 10:15 am Fellowship
Jan 13 (Mon)	5:00 pm Line Dancing @ Wild Hogs
Jan 14 (Tue)	9:30 am-1:30 pm DUO Day 3:00 pm Bible Study
Jan 15 (Wed)	9-11 am Adult Coloring @ Scooter's 6:15 pm Activity 7:00 pm Worship Service
Jan 16 (Thu)	Mission of Hope Meal
Jan 19 (Sun)	9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee w/Council
Jan 20 (Mon)	6:00 pm Steph. Ministry Supervision Newsletter Deadline
Jan 21 (Tue)	12:30 pm Card Players 3:00 pm Bible Study
Jan 22 (Wed)	6:15 pm Activity 7:00 pm Worship Service
Jan 23 (Thu)	11:30 am Women's Let's Do Lunch @ Tommy's Restaurant
Jan 24 (Fri)	Youth at Skyzone TBD 9:00 am Worship
Jan 26 (Sun)	4 th W/E Offer'g/Souper Bowl of Caring 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Annual Meeting 11:45 am Potluck Meal
Jan 28 (Tue)	9:30 am-1:30 pm DUO Day 3:00 pm Bible Study
Jan 29 (Wed)	6:15 pm Activity 7:00 pm Worship Service



Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church

720 Edgewood Road NW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

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<u>Inside this issue</u>	<u>Page</u>
❖ Outreach.....	2
❖ Adult News.....	3
❖ Youth News.....	5
❖ Events.....	6



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(319) 396-8547

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – Noon

Worship Services
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.



*If we live by the Spirit, let us also be
guided by the Spirit.*

Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

Join us as we grow to and for Christ!!!