

BREAD & WINE

News from

HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2013

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 55
621 Old Fallston Road
Fallston, Maryland 21047-0055
443-299-6134 - office
holycommunionlc@comcast.net
website - holycommunionfallston.org
Pastor John K. Burk
443-653-2462 - cell

FLESHLY WORD

“And the Word become flesh and dwelt among us, full of truth and grace.”

-John 1:14

As I shared with you, Debbie and I are to become Grandparents this February. Becky and Sam told us they were “trying” as people say when they want to conceive, but they saved the actual news for Father’s Day. They gave me my Father’s Day card and insisted I open it while everyone watched. The card read, *you’ve been a great Dad and we’re sure you’re going to be a great Grandpa*. I looked up with a blank stare and then it dawned on me that Becky was carrying the future in her womb. I cried tears of joy much to my surprise and the surprise of the family.

All of us are biologically programmed to respond to newborns: baby chick, kittens, puppies but especially babies. Babies evoke a pleasure and joy that comes from the center of the human psyche. Babies represent the hope of a future - they say, in effect, in spite of the problems of the present, its failings, its excesses, its sins, God is giving us a new chance.

Folks who have been around for awhile inevitably become jaded and cynical; age does that to us. Youth are not shackled to the past and babies give us hope for a better and a renewed tomorrow.

At Christmas, God’s appearance among us as an infant evokes all the above emotions and more. We say Jesus is God’s Son but we also call Jesus the Word of God. Remember, please, that when we start talking about Jesus as God we enter into some of the deepest, most inexplicable paradoxes and marvels of our faith. We contend that Jesus is both fully human and also at the same time fully divine. Humans die; God is eternal. Humans have limited power; God is by definition all powerful. How can God in Christ be all powerfully divine and yet a helpless, dependent vulnerable human that would die from exposure if not protected?

It gets more complicated. Central to our faith is the proposition that God has negated human sin and evil by taking it into the sinless, innocent body of Christ on the

cross to free us from sin. I have been trying to understand that since the contradiction was splashed into my brain 30 years ago in seminary.

Many things I can’t understand and won’t until God takes me to Heaven’s Courts. Sometimes, even when I don’t understand some things, my task is to believe in them and to trust in the God who stands behind them. As I grow older and ponder the faith’s deep mysteries, I am content to accept and believe without being able to understand the God who is totally beyond my ken or my knowing. St. Paul said, *“For now we see in a mirror dimly but then we shall see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known”*. Eugene Peterson, Presbyterian Pastor and scholar is much more daring in his translation. He paraphrases but always gets at the essence of the sacred text. He writes, *“We don’t yet see things clearly. We are squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won’t be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright. We will see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!”*

Luther called the incarnation the *“Happy Exchange”*. We give God our sin, God restores us to wholeness in forgiving love. We give God our death and God gives us eternal life and peace.

Jesus is God.

Jesus is a human being like you and me.

Is that cool or what?! When we pray in Jesus’ name God really understands what we ask or need because God “gets it” by God’s melding to the fully human, “been there, done that” Jesus. Everything...fear, love, remorse, passion, desire, longing, pain, horror, anger, whatever else we earthlings, we creatures who are born to die can endure and feel.

What a Christmas present!

-Pastor John

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Wow, I can not believe it is December already, where does the time go?

The children are having a great time in Sunday School learning bible stories in such creative ways. During opening they have been learning songs and watching a video clip about the story they are going to be learning

more about.

It has been great to see them participate in the 4th Sunday by being greeters, ushers, and lectors.

They have been working hard on practicing and preparing for the Christmas play that will be performed on *Sunday December 15*. Mark your calendars you don't want to miss "The Best Christmas Present Ever"

Hope everyone has a great holiday season.

If you have any questions about the Sunday School program, please contact theresaperkins3@gmail.com

Sunday School Coordinator - Theresa Perkins,

HCLC EXPENSES FOR OCTOBER

HCLC Financials-October-at-a-Glance: Contributions for October totaled \$36,101.58, the highest one-month total since this treasurer has been on duty (almost three years). Much of this was from special appeals such as *Fix the House* and *HCLC Cares*; still normal contributions and miscellaneous income for October was \$23,203. This is \$1,646 above September and almost \$4K above last October, and year-to-date total income exceeds YTD 2012 by almost \$6K.

YTD income is 78 percent of the target (which is about 83%) for 10 months. However, if we add in the *Fix the House* special appeal, income comes closer to target at 81 percent. YTD expenses at 85 percent exceed target; again the excess is almost entirely due to the unforeseen property charges.

EMERGENCY



Emergency is a newly formed ministry for high schoolers. Peer pressure, body image, sex, friends, relationship, and school - it is tough being a contemporary teen! This is a great opportunity to have open discussions with other peers about how to live faithfully among today's demands,

while uncovering the potentials of who God created them to be! We meet monthly (schedule to be announced), with the first meeting on **Saturday, November 23**, 2-3:15pm at *Panera Bread* in Abingdon. For more information or you would like to participate in this event, please contact Penny Sadler-Vocke (psadlervocke@mtbia.com) or Vicar Chasity Wiener (chaswiener@verizon.net).



LOVIN' LIFE SENIORS

Our goal is to "*Reach Out and Share Christ's Love*" through service projects in the community while offering friendship and support to each other through social events. **Please join us! Invite your friends!** Our 2013 schedule and **sign up sheets** for upcoming events are posted on the Senior's Bulletin Board in the hallway. **2014 is listed below.**

Please read the **Sunday Bulletins** and the monthly *Bread & Wine* newsletter for any changes to the schedule below.

SCHEDULE FOR 2013 - FOLLOWING EVENTS

December 14 - Saturday, 4pm

Christmas Program - Trinity Assembly of God Church, Lutherville, Ticket holders can carpool from church at 2:30pm

January 14 - Tuesday, 12 noon

Lunch - *Basta Pasta* - Fallston

February 11, Tuesday, 12 noon

Lunch - *Mamies* - Aberdeen

March 11, Tuesday, 12 noon

Lunch - *Bowman's* - Parkville

April 7 - Monday

Hart-Miller Island

April

Servefest Date and time to be determined

May 13 - Tuesday

Mt. Harmon Plantation - Cecil City - Details to follow

June 10, Tuesday

Snyder Pretzel Factory - Hanover, PA - Details to follow

July 8 - Tuesday - 12 noon

Lunch - *Shafer's Canel House* - Chesapeake City,

August 12 - Tuesday - 12 noon

Lunch - *Madonna Seafood Restaurant* - Rt 23

September 9, Tuesday, 12 noon

Crab Feast at HCLC

October

Rainbow Theatre - "*Drinking Habits*"- Details to follow

November 11 or December 9 - 12 noon

Union Hotel - Details to follow

We are always looking for new ideas and new members. If interested contact Nancy Campbell (410-836-7688); Frances Gosnell (410-893-4622); Jeanette Hastings (410-893-7590); Pat Kellermann (410-679-4624; Ellen Priebe (410-679-8655)



ROAD TRIP for HIGH SCHOOLERS



RoadTRIP! (Ocean City, MD) Open to all high schoolers for a weekend of service projects, faith-filled discussions, building relationship in small groups for youth and workshops/networking for adults, powerful worship with our Bishop preaching, and new and renewed friends from all over the Synod! Come and hear how God is speaking to you... and speaking through you to the world. For more information, please contact Vicar Chas at chaswiener@verizon.net or visit <http://demdsynod.org/mission-teams/mission-through-congregations/youth-and-family-ministry/youth-events/roadtrip/>

MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH FOR THE ADVENT SEASON



On **Sunday December 1** - First Sunday of Advent - There will be an Advent Wreath Building Session for those who would like to make an Advent Wreath for their homes.

The cost is \$10 and all you need to bring is a pair of clippers. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board or you can contact Debbie Burk (410 -574-4758), burkdebbie5@gmail.com

Everyone is invited and there will be a Pot Luck meal served.

BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

12 -01 - Steve Glock	12-17 - Susan Hood
12-03 - Bess Reed	12-18 - Jon Perkins
12-05 - Beth Griffin	12-19 - Brianna Billings
12-05 - Rachel Edsall	12-19 - Steve Caughey
12-05 - Jane Plantholt	12-19 - Ed Walton
12-06 - Shelley Dix	12-20 - Emma Snyder
12-07 - Theresa Perkins	12-24 - Phil Wiener
12-08 - Ryan Huber	12-25 - Sherri Glock
12-11 - Charles Moore	12-26 - Howard Seeger
12-11 - Sandy Ebsworth	12-26 - Chris Julian
12-12 - Eleanor Jacobs	12-28 - Tara Giordano
12-14 - Jeff Boeren	12-29 - Dillon Skinner
12-15 - Bill Plantholt	12-29 - Christina Thanner



CELL PHONES - There is a box above the coat rack for them. They go to Men and Women in our armed Services.

EYE GLASSES - There is a box for them. They are refurbished and go to the less fortunate who cannot afford glasses.



TRUNK or TREAT

THANKS to everyone for the great turn out for the *Trunk or Treat*. We counted 50 children, and 43 participating on some level. The *Boeren Family* won the *Trunk or Treat* decorating contest (free brunch buffet at *Mountain Branch* for 2) and the *Deems Family* won the family costume contest (\$20 Pat's Pizza gift card). Everyone won the costume contest and received a free ice cream cone. If you missed it, plan on attending next year.

FALL EXTRAVAGANZA

THANKS to the dedicated people for their hard work that was done to make the FALL EXTRAVAGANZA a huge success. We made more than \$3100 for our CARE fund; (and money is still coming in). We could not begin to thank everyone that helped individually but the Extravaganza would not have been such a success without your help and you are greatly appreciated and thanked. We thank God for all the blessings He has bestowed on our congregation and our church. Thanks Jan Warren, Adrienne Smith and Penny Sadler-Vocke for spearheading this event.

KITCHEN CABINETS



NEW CABINETS have been installed in the kitchen. Stop by and take a look. Thanks to Chris Vocke and his son Cory for doing the work.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS



We will be decorating the church after the late service on **Sunday, December 8.**

Lunch will be provided!



Lots of hands make short the work and we have needs of all kinds of help! This is always a very fun event at our church. Come when you can, leave when you must!

STEWARDSHIP LETTER

Sacrifice proportionally as Christ sacrificed for us. For our sake Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings.

"gave according to their means, and even beyond their means". - 2 Corinthians 8:3

On my way home from Africa in 1978, I spent a month in Europe having never been there. A friend and I were eating supper in a Paris restaurant and the tables, like a restaurant in NYC were on top of one another. A man about my father's age came in by himself and sat down beside us. He recognized our American accents and struck up a conversation with us. We told him about our recent service in Africa and shared some funny stories.

At the end of the meal he leaned over and said, *"I'll never forget the day when American tanks rolled into the city. We had been nearly starving for four years, the Nazis took everything of value from the artwork of our museums to the food we needed to eat. The American Red Cross came in right behind the tanks and started passing out bags of flour, beans and canned meat. You Americans were generous to us; I'll never forget how you helped"*.

I was very touched by his words. We were strangers. Our meeting was by chance and casual. Yet I could feel, literally feel the gratitude in his voice and see it in his eyes. It was humbling that this dignified Frenchman would tell two young Americans who were not even born in 1944 that he was grateful then and still grateful.

Last week, I watch the evening news and saw boxes of food being unloaded from US helicopters that bore the words *"A Gift from the American People"*. We are an enormous county with great resources and God has been lavish, absolutely lavish in generosity toward us.

The ELCA has a beautiful motto mission statement; *God's work; Our Hands*. God's spirit moves the Christian community to be generous. There is always a bit of a question for us because we remember times of "want" of our own. But that's when faith kicks in. God had always provided. So give as you are able and remember how generous God has been to you.

-Pastor John

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Holy Communion Lutheran Church - *"Reaching Out to Share Christ's Love"* - 2014

We pray that you will be committed to growth in your stewardship and will strive to Tithe 10%

Name(s) _____

I (we) would like to give \$ _____ per q week q month

Regular Operating

Benevolence

Building

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

I understand that I may adjust this estimate of giving at any time by contacting the finance secretary.

One important thing you can do that really helps Holy Communion Lutheran Church, no matter what your offering, is to return the commitment card. This will help to plan God's work for the coming year. The commitment contained on the card can always be changed if your circumstances change.

SUNDAY , NOVEMBER 24

Please either hand in, mail (P. O. Box 55, Fallston, MD 21047-0055), or drop off your pledge card in the box in the Narthex next to the offering envelopes.

DIABETES - from Parish Nurse

Diabetes is a metabolic disease/condition that inhibits the body's ability to convert glucose (sugar) to energy. The food that we eat is turned into glucose to be used for energy, fuel for our body. The food we eat is digested and changed into fats, proteins, and carbohydrates. Carbohydrates are foods that are digested and converted to sugars (glucose); examples are bread, rice, pasta, potatoes, fruit, and candies. The pancreas, an organ, is responsible for producing the hormone insulin. Insulin is important for the transfer of energy from the blood to the cells.

Diabetes Type I occurs in 5-10% of the population. This is diagnosed in children and young adults; these individuals produce no Insulin and require daily insulin injections.

Diabetes Type II occurs in 8.3% of the population primarily in adults. Type II means that the pancreas is not producing enough Insulin or it is not effective.

Symptoms of diabetes may vary from individual to individual; common symptoms are blurred vision, unusual thirst, frequent urination, increased fatigue, dizziness and tingling and numbness in hands and feet.

Diabetes is diagnosed with a simple blood test measuring your blood glucose level. Normal blood sugar is 80-99mg/dl.

Next month we will discuss treatment and life style modifications.

For more information please see www.diabetes.org or www.cdc.gov.

With blessings Barb Huber RN FCHN

HELPING THE ANIMALS



Four times a year we set aside a Sunday to collect old sheets, towels, small blankets, rugs and wet and dry cat food (no dog food) for the animals in the Fallston Shelter. The shelter could also always use money for bills.



On **Sunday, March 2** we will be collecting your donations. There will be a box and a plastic shaped container in the Narthex for your donations.

Up coming dates for **2014** are **March 2, June 1, September 7 and December 7.**

Thank you for all the help you give to the sheltered animals.

-Fallston Animal Rescue Movement.

CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD



Always check the bulletin board in the hall for various events that are being held at other churches and surrounding businesses. There is committee information, bulletin sponsors and newsletter sign up sheets along with general information about HCLC.

ABITIBI PAPER RETRIEVER

Remember to bring your recycling



What was recycled in 2013 and how much we were paid for recycling paper.

Month	Tons	Total
January	2.28	\$11.39
February	2.19	10.93
March	1.89	9.47
April	1.61	8.06
May	1.83	9.14
June	2.25	11.26
July	2.12	10.62
August	2.13	10.62
September	1.71	8.56
October	1.77	8.85
November		
December		
Total	19.78	\$ 98.90
2012	28.21	\$141.53

Keep those old papers, catalogs, books and magazines coming!

No corrugated cardboard.

Pasteboard is what is used in cereal boxes and poster boards. It is acceptable.

No plastic.

Invite your neighbors to use our bins. Every little bit helps us and also saves the environment.

BUY YOUR CHICKS & DUCKS



It is that time a year again when Holy Communion spreads the *Love of Christ* to the whole world one small critter and creature at a time. The **Global Barnyard** is now open for business. We will be selling chicks and ducks. Once you purchase some chicks or ducks, the ELCA will provide a chicken or duck to a family in a developing nation. They will use it to sell the eggs or breed them thereby creating a business for the family. Ducks and Chicks will be on sale starting **Sunday, November 24 through Friday, December 13**. Each purchase will include a certificate of purchase if you would like to donate in the name of someone else.



ORDER POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias are \$6.00

I would like ___red I would like ___white I would like ___pink

Name _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Make check payable to **Holy Communion Lutheran Church** on memo please write **Poinsettias**

THANK YOU NOTE

FROM LINDA EDDINGER – *From the bottom of my heart I want to thank Pastor John, Chas and my church family for the prayers, encouragement, cards, and phone calls during my chemo.*

FROM BILL & PAT KELLERMANN - *Many thanks to Pastor John for his prayers and visits during Bill's recent surgery, and to the members of Holy Communion for their prayers, cards and phone calls. We thank God for all of you and thank Him for his many blessings.*

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS all those who are sick and in need of our prayers especially Debbie Adamiak, Bartfeld Family, Sarah Bayne, Joyce Beegle, Debbie Burk, Carol Berg, Susan Cullum, Harry Debaugh, Debbie Donnally, Dupilka Family, Linda Eddinger, Nikko Furlong, Rebecca Gaines, Julie Gore, Barbara Hagan, Erica Hall, Jean Harple, Lauren Hess, Robin Jones, Bill Kellermann, Lars Family, John Lewis, Maddie, Edwin Michel, North Family, Rick Rende, Colton Rendine, Maria Robinson, Carter Rodier, Ken Sanner, Jack Scanlan & Family, Anna Marie See, Nick Selvi, Nicole Spruil, Larry Strausser, Abigayle Taylor, Phyllis Ward and Jessica Westcott-Henderson and the Families of Brendon Cody and Rebecca Gottschalk

DEADLINES



SUNDAY BULLETIN announcements in the office by

Tuesdays afternoon by 2 o'clock

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER articles in the office by

2nd Sunday of the month.

BECOME A SPONSOR

HOW TO BE A SPONSOR for

BULLETINS, NEWSLETTERS AND CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

SIGN UP SHEETS are on the BULLETIN BOARD in the hall.

Bulletin are \$10

Newsletters are \$45

and

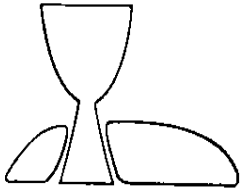
Children's Bulletin are \$10

All checks or money can be placed in the offering plate.

**Make sure you put on your check or with your money
what you are sponsoring and what week or month
or want to sponsor.**

**Any questions or concerns, always feel free to call the office
443-299-6134**

OFFICE HOURS are Tuesdays and Thursdays



NEWSLETTER from HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2013

“REACHING OUT TO SHARE CHRIST’S LOVE”

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
Is a growing community
of faith that exists to provide
the Fallston Community with
a variety of opportunities
for special development in:

**WORSHIP
REACHING OUT
LEARNING
WITNESS**

Bread & Wine newsletters for 2013	
Jan - Ellen Priebe	Jul - Bob/Susan Hood
Feb - Hilary Fall	Aug - None needed
Mar - Jeff/Elaine McClean	Sep - Larry/Lynne Strausser
April - Nancy Campbell	Oct - Myers' Family
May - Bud/Carolyn Ruth	Nov - Eckels' Family
Jun - Arlene/Fred Hildebrandt	Dec - Evelyn Schmidt

Upcoming monthly newsletter deadlines are due on the 2 nd Sunday of the month	
Sun, Dec 10	Sun, May 11
Sun, Jan 12	Sun, Jun 8
Sun, Feb 9	Sun, no newsletter
Sun, Mar 9	Sun, Aug 10
Sun, Apr 13	Sun, Sept 14

Come and be part of our Christian worship

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 55
621 Old Fallston road
Fallston, Maryland 21047-0055
443-299-6134
holycommunionlc@comcast.net
holycommunionfallsto.org

Sign up to receive the synod e-letter. Go to demdsynod.org
and follow the links to the e-letter.
You learn about free concert, trips, activities and job possibilities.

Please notify the church by phone
or email if you have a name
change, address change,
telephone number change or an
email address change.

Worship Services
8:30am - Traditional Service 10:15am - Contemporary Service

10:15am - Sunday School

‘REACHING OUT TO SHARE CHIRSTS’S LOVE!’