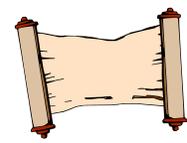


Parish Parchment



The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish
The Reverend Christine Kirchner, Pastor
1558 Rock Glen Road
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-9207
January 2019

Return Service Requested



This newsletter is sent with a prayer for...

QuotesIdeas.com

The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish Newsletter

News and Information About Emanuel, Saint Peter's,
and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Churches

Rev. Christine Kirchner, Pastor

January 2019

Phone: 570-384-4125

E-mail: mglp@frontier.com or pastorkirchner@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF MOUNTAIN GROVE LUTHERAN PARISH

"To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a ministry of worship and outreach"



O Lord, we pray that the visitation of your grace may so cleanse our thoughts and minds that your Son Jesus, when he shall come, may find in us a fit dwelling place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PASTORS PAGE



As 2018 comes to a close and a new year begins, I give thanks to God for you and your ministry. From generously fundraising so the youth group could attend the ELCA Gathering in Houston to saying goodbye to beloved friends and family, we have certainly experienced the highs and lows of life this year. As we look to the future, I am excited to see where the Holy Spirit will lead us in 2019.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Pastor Christine and Jed



Also: *Dave Demshock Sr* (Brother-in-law of Nancy Lawrence), *Alea Munn*, *Rachael Broadt*, *Allison Jumper* (Susie Spudes), *John* (Kathy Brior), *Jim Bankes*, *Janet Matyas*, *Shirley Ackley* (David Bankes sister), *Emery Tweehues* (Susie Spudes), *Annette Hoffman* (Nancy Chulock's cousin), *Beverly J Michael*, *Jimmy Denoia* (Ray & Nancy Chulock's brother-in-law), *Olivia* (Kathy Brior), *Patsy Millard*, *Doris Schell*, *Dennis Crouse*, *Judy Boody* (Janet Kelchners sister), *Robert Hunsinger Sr* (Sharon Hartzell's Dad), *Robyn & Dick Baker*, *Carol & Debbie Chyko*, *young people of our congregation*. ***Please pray for all the people of MGLP***, especially: those in need of healing; those suffering from chronic health issues; & members who are confined to their homes or long-term care facilities.

UPDATES: Sharon Hartzell at 384-4107 or shartzell@ptd.net **(NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)**

-----PLEASE REVIEW PRAYER LIST AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY-----



Adult Bible Study

We will be taking a break starting in
December.

We will start up again in the Spring.

Pastor on vacation until
January 3rd.
In case of emergencies,
Pastor Joel Zeiders will be
available at:
Cell-570-594-5204
Office:570-784-4515

Annual Congregational Meetings
St. Peter Jan. 13, 2019
Trinity and Emanuel Jan. 20, 2019

Mark your calendars:

Cottage Meetings

If you haven't read Pastor Christine's parish letter, be sure to pick up a copy at the back of the church. During this month and February, we will be holding a series of small group meetings to discuss how we do ministry and make some long-range plans. The hope is to have everyone in the congregation participate in these meetings so that we have everyone's input. There are signup sheets in the back of each congregation. If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Christine.

Trinity Meetings

Jan 15 at 7pm
Jan 17 at 7pm
Jan 19 at 10 am
Jan 22 at 7pm

Emanuel Meetings

Jan 29 at 7pm
Jan 31 at 7pm
Feb 2 at 10am
Feb 5 at 7pm

St. Peter Meetings

Feb 7 at 7pm
Feb 9 at 10am
Feb 11 at 7pm
Feb 19 at 7pm

Please Note New E-mail Address:
shartzell@ptd.net

Prayer Ventures for January 2019

1 *New Year's Day* We join all creation in praising God and pray that everything we do and say reflects God's glory and wonder-filled love.

2 *National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month* We remember and pray for those who are victims of sex trafficking, involuntary servitude, debt bondage and forced labor in our nation and around the world, and we ask God to guide us in caring for victims and taking an active role in ending this abuse, injustice and oppression.

3 Ask God for the strength and patience we need to move forward with and accomplish new goals and endeavors; give thanks for the people in our lives who offer support, encouragement and wisdom, and who reassure us of God's grace and forgiveness when we feel like we are failing or struggling.

4 Remember in prayer people who have lost their homes and places of shelter as a result of recent natural disasters; pray they receive assistance — including emotional and spiritual care — and resources needed for rebuilding their lives and homes; pray we are generous in our support of Lutheran Disaster Response's work of bringing God's hope, healing and renewal to people and places suffering loss and disruption.

5 We come to God in prayer with grateful hearts, curiosity and awe that, as insignificant and small as we seem in comparison to the universe, God is mindful of us and cares for us.

6 Pray the Holy Spirit is at work in us expanding our vision of whom we include when we think and speak of "neighbors," that our prayers, concerns and actions consider people and situations beyond our congregations, social circles, communities and nation.

7 Give thanks for the generous support of donors to *The Campaign for the ELCA* that has enabled the ELCA's International Women Leaders initiative to grow in its accompaniment and support of international women leaders through educational seminars, south-to-south exchanges, in-country study programs and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities.

8 Pray for newly elected leaders, judges and officials across our nation, that they be filled with wisdom, compassion, a deep sense of justice, and a desire to build relationships where schisms exist — for the well-being of all people and communities, especially where there is poverty, hardship and inequality.

9 Give thanks for faith communities, church leaders, Christian educators, friends and mentors who help us understand the mystery of Christ and the gospel, leading us to greater boldness and confidence of faith.

10 Pray for our elders, especially those who are homebound or living alone, that we will seek ways to keep them connected and cared for through our congregations and communities during the long winter months and throughout the year.

11 There is no greater advocate, defender and deliverer of the poor and oppressed than God. Pray we are faithful, unwavering partners in God's work of bringing justice, healing, hope, relief and peace to the world.

12 Pray for the ELCA Disability Ministries Team and its work of advocating, equipping congregations and synods, and supporting new and existing ministries for the sake of all who live with mental illness, their families, and people who offer care, support and treatment.

13 Ask that the Holy Spirit shape our words, teachings and actions to enable us to be clear and articulate witnesses of who Jesus is: Son of God, the promised Messiah, our true salvation and hope.

14 Pray for J-term students returning to colleges and universities, that their experiences, new perspectives, knowledge and renewed faith help clarify, enrich and equip them for their vocations and discernment of what God may be calling them to.

15 Give thanks that God is with us in every situation, disaster, uncertainty and difficulty and that we can trust God's promise and reassurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

16 As many of our Christmas gifts fall into disuse, break, lose their appeal or are regifted, we ask God to remind us of the gifts and blessings in our lives that give us joy and are lasting — day after day.

17 Ask the Holy Spirit to help us support, pray for, encourage and accompany those who are new Christians and beginning their journey of faith following Jesus.

18 *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* We are one in the body of Christ. Pray for our ecumenical partners, global church companions, and our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere that God will draw us closer to one another and bless our work together for the purpose of building up Christ's church in the world.

19 The voice of God can be sensed throughout all creation and in every nation. Pray we are attentive to God's voice that it will assure us of God's glory and power, give us strength and bless us with peace.

20 In the miracle of turning water into wine for wedding guests to enjoy, Jesus demonstrates the power and presence of God in our everyday lives and situations. With joy and humility, give thanks for God's ability to accomplish the unimaginable for the sake of the world.

21 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Give thanks for the life, vision and sacrifice of Martin Luther King Jr. and all those who have worked tirelessly and at great personal risk throughout history for justice, peace, freedom and equality for all people, especially the oppressed and poor.

22 Give thanks for the service & witness of ELCA federal chaplains who work with members of the military, patients, families & staff at Veterans Affairs medical centers, & the staff & inmates of federal prisons.

23 Pray for those who are cold and homeless this winter that they find warm, safe shelter and for the work of congregations and community programs that offer temporary shelter, meals and assistance for individuals and families in need of long-term, affordable, safe housing.

24 Though we have many and sometimes uncommon spiritual gifts and abilities, we pray we are always mindful that they are gifts from God to be used for God's glory and to uplift and complement each other to be bearers of the good news in the world.

25 Pray we take comfort & encouragement knowing we aren't measured by successes/failures or whether or not we achieve our goals & resolutions, but by our identity as baptized children of God, we are loved, forgiven, renewed & set free to share our faith, spread hope, serve our neighbor & do good in the world.

26 Pray for the ELCA Peace Not Walls Young Adult Initiative and its trips to the Holy Land for young adults of color to explore issues of faith, justice and culture through awareness-raising experiences, relationship building and practicing accompaniment in Palestine and Israel.

27 Give thanks for the word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit that strengthens our faith and understanding of the work, purpose & truth of Jesus Christ - the light of truth, salvation & hope in the world.

28 Pray our long-standing congregations grow, adapt and thrive for God's work in the world; ask that the Holy Spirit inspire, equip and renew their leadership and members for ministry and service in the midst of everchanging social, cultural, economic and technological contexts.

29 Pray for participants, including leaders from the ELCA, gathered in Udon Thani, Thailand, for the Asian Lutheran International Conference, a network supported by the ELCA Association of Asian and Pacific Islanders.

30 Thank God for the special relationship we have with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 2009; pray for their church, its members and leaders, and that together we find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

31 Our diverse gifts, experiences and perspectives are brought together with purpose in the body of Christ. Pray differences don't divide us, instead enrich lives, faith communities for mutual care, encouragement, doing God's work in the world & share the good news of our salvation, unity in Jesus Christ.



January Babies

01/04 Jasmine Lyons
01/07 June Klingerman
Pamela Starr
01/08 Dave Keller
01/09 Glen Diehl
01/11 Lois Levan
01/12 Bruce Brown (Little)
01/13 Matthew Huff
01/16 Benjamin Brown
01/18 Marianna Michael
01/20 Nancy Gilmore
Charles Phafler
01/22 Amy Minzola
01/23 Don Tretter
01/24 Monique Diehl
01/25 Eileen Milheim
01/26 Dennis Starr
Hannah Wohlforth
01/29 Wendy Gearhart
01/30 Alex Mock

Emanuel Worship Service Schedule for January

10:15 on January 6th & 20th

10:45 on January 13th & 27th

Loose Change will be collected for Bloomsburg pool.
on December 6th & 20th

There will be no **Coffee Klatch** during the winter.
We will resume May 19.

Pastor contact info:

The Rev. Christine Kirchner

Contact info: pastorkirchner@gmail.com

808-652-6740 or 570-384-4125



January Anniversaries

01/04 Janet & Fred Cool
01/18 Richard & Judy Hartranft
01/27 Lee & Virginia Rupert

Emanuel's volunteer for Heat/AC
& Communion for January is
Cheech & Jelly
Ushers are Jerry & Shirley