



Formally Worship for Shut-ins
 Can be seen at 9:00 AM Sunday WEVV-TV Fox 44.2
 Daily 7:30 AM & 7:30 PM WOW Channel 9

January 5, 2020 – Second Sunday after Christmas *The Epiphany of our Lord Observed

Psalm 72:1-11; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

“The ‘Aha’ Moment” - Sermon Text: Ephesians 3:1-12 - Rev. Thomas Eggold

January 12, 2020 – First Sunday after the Epiphany *The Baptism of Our Lord

Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3:13-17

“Baptized into Christ” - Sermon Text: Matthew 3:17 - Rev. Shayne Jonker

January 19, 2020 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a

“Behold, the Lamb of God” - Sermon Text: John 1:29-42a - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

January 26, 2020 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 27; Matthew 4:12-25

“Have No Fear!” - Sermon Text: Psalm 27 - Rev. William Mueller

NEW ADDRESSES:

IVAN WORTMAN – Has a new mailing address – He is still residing at Holiday 11632 Rebecca Lane; Whitmore Lake MI; 48189-9782

MARGARET CHEANEY – West River Health Campus; 714 S Eickhoff Rd Room 500; Evansville IN; 47712

FLOWER CHART: The Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex of the church. This is where you may sign up to put flowers by the altar during certain times of the year. The first person signing up for a particular date, selects the color and type of flowers. The cost is \$30.00 and the Altar Circle will take care of the ordering of the flowers and announcement in the bulletin of the significance of the flowers. When your month approaches that you selected, the member of the Altar Circle for that month will contact you for your information. Questions?? See **LINDA RAE KORFF** or call at (812) 477-4078.

During the month of December, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **LISA KECK, DORIS TURPIN, DIANA DUNKELBARGER, MARY DENNIS, GARY GANN, CLYDE BRODERHAUSEN, HELEN MARIE WORTMANN, IVAN WORTMANN, MARTY KOCH, GAYLE O’RISKY, WALT SOMERS, DONNA SENSMEIER, NEAL WATHEN, NINA THURMAN, GIL KAHRE, PAUL SCHNUTE, MARGARET CHEANEY, LOIS KAHRE, KERRY KECK, ROBERT KRON, and WANDA KAHRE.**

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Saturday, November 30..... | 7 |
| Sunday, December 1 | 68 |
| Saturday, December 7..... | 14 |
| Saturday, December 8 | 97 |
| Saturday, December 14 | 7 |
| Sunday, December 15..... | 76 |
| Saturday, December 21..... | 12 |
| Sunday, December 22..... | 77 |
| Christmas Eve..... | 105 |
| Christmas Day..... | 44 |

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

| | <u>Dec 1</u> | <u>Dec 8</u> | <u>Dec 15</u> | <u>Dec 22</u> |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Nursery – High School (plus teachers & parents) | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| Adult Bible Classes | 15 | 27 | 27 | 17 |
| Music & Office | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| <hr/> Total | <hr/> 18 | <hr/> 35 | <hr/> 31 | <hr/> 22 |

WHAT'S COMING UP

NEWSLETTER ITEMS: If you have an item for the monthly newsletter it must be in no later than the 20th of every month! Nothing will be accepted after business hours on the 20th. You can also submit items by emailing them to: trisha@tidarm.org

SARAH BIBLE CLASS: The Sarah Bible Class will resume on Thursday, January 2nd, in the Christian Fellowship Room. Class sessions begin at 9:30 AM. All ladies are most welcome, bearing whatever translation of the Bible you find most helpful. Coffee, treats and fellowship available beginning at 9:00 AM.

ALL BOARDS MEETING: Saturday, January 11th we will have our All Boards Training Event. The training will start at 9:00am with Pastor Temme leading us in a Devotion. There will follow a 45 to 50 minute Leadership Development training. The final portion of the training will be for all boards to develop and finalize their Vision Statements for the 2020 year.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the 21 members who shared their personal nativities with us to display during our pancake breakfast. We had 226 nativities and 30 nativity ornaments on the tree.
Thanks again, Hazel English

Over 200 people were served at our Pancake Breakfast on December 7. We thank the Board of Parish Fellowship for the breakfast, Hazel English for displaying the nativity scenes, and all who served and provided special music. Our Advent music concert and dinner was attended by 100 people from our congregation and their guests. We thank the choir, hand bell players, and instrumentalists for the concert and the boards of outreach and social ministry for providing the banquet.

As you probably have noticed we have new Chrismons among our angels also hanging on our Christmas Tree this year. **VALERIE EBERHART** and **LINDA SUE KORFF** planned the painting and decorating of them. They were assisted by **HAZEL ENGLISH, DOTTIE KAHRE,** and **LINDA RAE KORFF**. Watch the bulletin every week, **CLEORAMAE STUNKEL** is giving us information on the history, tradition, and meaning of each one of the symbols. Thanks to all that helped with this project.

The Staff would like to thank the congregation for their generous donation this Christmas season! We are so blessed.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

What: All Boards Leadership Training
When: Saturday, January 11, 2020
Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

What: Developing the Leader Within You 2.0
When: Five Wednesday evenings;
Wednesday, January 15th - Wednesday, February 12th.
Time: 6:30 to 8:00 PM

What: Live2Lead (Church Members Only)
When: Saturday, January 25, 2020
Time: TBD (1/2day)

“CHEERS & TEARS”



Cheers to **DAN HOFFHERR** for trimming our shrubbery, trees and straightening up our landscaping for the Reformation Sunday.

Cheers to **STEVE KAHRE** who built a room to keep our banners for the Altar Circle and to **JIM KAHRE** engineering the procedure to hang them properly and to **JERRY KORFF** for varnishing the room.

Cheers to **JOHN TERRY** had made us three walnut crosses, one is a Byzantine cross and will be hung later in our new addition and the other two are LCMS crosses and have been hung on the outside wall of the entrance to the church. Thanks to John for the making of them and **STEVE KAHRE** for hanging the crosses up securely for us.

Cheers to all our members who brought their nativities to display. There were 226 nativities with 21 members participating.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who donated to the needy families of our congregation. These families greatly appreciated it.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who helped at the Pancake Breakfast.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who donated for the Cheer Buckets.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who went caroling to the shut-ins. They greatly appreciated it.

Cheers to the **ALTAR CIRCLE LADIES** and everyone who helped decorate our Church for the Holiday season.

Cheers to the **HANDBELLS, CHOIR & INSTRUMENTALISTS** for their beautiful music during this Advent/Christmas Season.

Cheers to the following people who celebrated milestone birthdays in December:

BILL GANN – 91st December 1st
CHARLES FELLWOCK – 90th December 4th
NINA THURMAN – 90th December 12th

Cheers to the following couples who celebrated anniversaries in December:

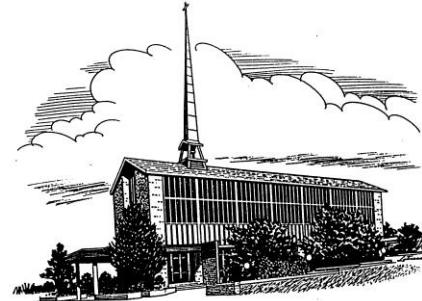
JIM & JANICE STONE – 52nd December 9th
RICHARD & MARY DENNIS – 50th December 21st



Tears to the Family and Friends of **KEN FEHD**, who died on December 16th.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

DARMSTADT NEWSLETTER



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VOLUME 33

JANUARY 2020

NO. 1

Revealed Knowledge of God by the Bible

The last two months we looked at two ways to support our confession in the Apostles' Creed, "I believe in God." The first way was knowledge of God through his creation. The second way was knowledge of God through our conscience. We call these two types of knowledge the *natural knowledge* of God because every human being has access to them. From this natural knowledge of God we can actually learn quite a bit about the true God. We can determine God's qualities or characteristics. Sometimes we call these things His attributes.

From the natural knowledge of God in creation we can surmise that God is almighty or all-powerful. A fancy word is *omnipotent*. God must certainly be all-powerful in order to create this entire universe. We also know that God is all-knowing or *omniscient* because He has the knowledge and intellect to design this world and all the complexities of life which even man cannot understand. Since God must have existed before the creation of the universe, He is not bounded by time. God is *eternal*, without beginning or end. God is also present to keep His universe going, not only here on our planet but also in the spinning solar systems many galaxies away. Therefore, God must be present everywhere or be *omnipresent*. God also provides for our needs through His creation. We recognize that God is *good*, desiring our welfare. And since we do not see God in any physical form in His creation, we conclude that God is *spirit*, a personal being without a body.

From the natural knowledge of God by conscience we know that God has written His Laws on our minds because we have morals. We feel guilty and shameful when we sin. Therefore, we surmise that God must be perfect, without sin, and hating sin. God is *holy*. And since we have an internal sense of justice when we see wrong and since we fear punishment when we do wrong, we know that God must be *just*, defending the innocent and punishing the guilty.

Finally, since both God's laws of nature and His moral Law do not change over time, we conclude that God is unchanging or *immutable*.

But there are some attributes of God that we could never discern from the natural knowledge of God. These attributes must be revealed to us by God himself. God reveals Himself to us fully through His own Word in the Bible. The Bible is the *revealed knowledge* of God. From the Bible we know for certain that God *is* omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, eternal, good, spirit, holy, just, and immutable. But *only* from the Bible do we learn that God is also *merciful, gracious, and loving*. No person can derive these final three attributes from creation or conscience. Only God's revealed knowledge of himself in the Bible tells us so.

When Jonah came and preached God's Law to Nineveh that the city would be destroyed in 40 days, the Ninevites repented of their evil ways. But they did not know for sure that God was merciful, gracious, and loving. They said, "Who knows? Maybe God will relent." They could *hope* that God was merciful, but they could never know for sure, especially because God's prophet Jonah preached only the Law without preaching any Gospel.

This is why the pagan religions of the world are so different from Christianity. Without God's revealed knowledge of himself in the Bible, they only have a natural knowledge of God. While this natural knowledge may be correct, it is incomplete. Therefore, all other religions of the world create a religious system of salvation based on natural knowledge that goes something like this: "I know that I break God's Laws because my conscience tells me. I feel guilty. God is omniscient and knows that I sin. Since God is holy and hates sin, He must be displeased with me. And since God is just, He cannot overlook my sin but must punish me. And because God is almighty, He certainly has the power to do it. Therefore, I need to make amends with God and appease him. I need to make up for my mistakes." What normally results from this natural knowledge of God is a religious system of works. A person has to meet certain standards, follow certain steps, or meet a certain criteria to make himself righteous before God and satisfy His justice.

But Christianity is different from all other religions because we have the revealed knowledge of God in the Bible. We know for certain that God *is* merciful, gracious, and loving. God loves us and forgives our sins. But how can God be both holy and just, hating sin and punishing sin, while also being merciful and gracious to us? It seems that God's attributes would be in conflict. How could a righteous judge like God seemingly turn the other way and mercifully forgive our sins? He would not be a just judge. But God solved this problem through his Son, Jesus Christ. God poured out all his hatred of sin and justice upon Christ on the cross so He could forgive us. In this way God can be both holy and just while also merciful and gracious. This revealed knowledge in the Bible of God's grace and mercy in Jesus Christ is what sets Christianity apart from all other world religions which have only a natural knowledge of God. Our salvation does not depend upon our works and appeasing God but upon God's mercy and forgiveness to us through faith in Jesus Christ.

This is the true God we confess in the Apostles' Creed, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, when we say, "I believe in God."

Pastor Temme

PRESCHOOL NOTES

Thank you to those that came out and supported our preschoolers and their families at the Christmas Program. Our kids did a great job telling Jesus' story! This month we will be hosting an open house on January 27 from 5-7 PM. Please spread the word to help us gain enrollment for next school year.