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# The Lutheran Visitor

721 12th Avenue    Huntington, WV 25701  
The Reverend Jennifer Obermueller, Pastor

January 2012

*The Mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is to celebrate and proclaim  
to all the saving grace of Jesus Christ through word and deed.*

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## Epiphany

The Day of the Epiphany was once second in importance only to Easter. Now celebrated on its fixed date of January 6 or the nearest Sunday, it is overshadowed by Christmas. The season of Epiphany runs from January 6 until Ash Wednesday.

Epiphany is Greek for the "revelation of something hidden."

**Star** - The magi believed that the stars announced great events, such as the birth of a ruler who might affect the fate of nations.

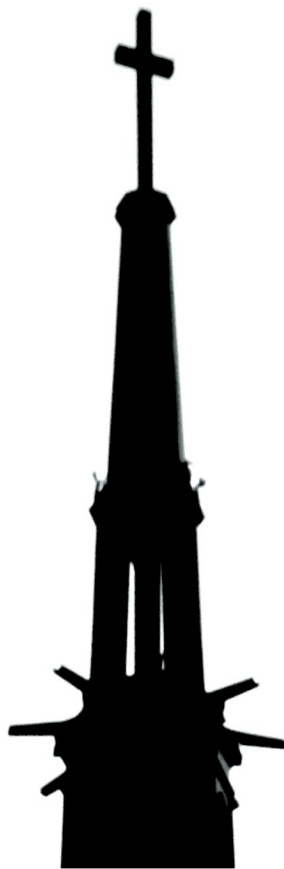
**Nations** - Christians from the nations of the world recall events from both the Old and New Testaments in which the Lord's light, revealed in his Servant-Son, dawns throughout our world and enlightens all of our lives.

**Magi** - Colorful priest-scholars-astrologists from Persia who represent all the non-Jewish nations coming to worship the Lord.

**Light** - Early Christians celebrated the revelation of God's glory in Jesus, calling him Light for the "people who sat in darkness." Converts ready to be baptized were called "illuminati - those who are about to be enlightened" by Christ, the Light of the World.

**White** is the liturgical color for the Day of Epiphany and Green for the rest of the season.

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### Special dates

- New Year's Day, January 1, 2012
- Epiphany, January 6, 2012
- Baptism of the Lord, January 8, 2012
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance, January 16, 2012
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18–25, 2012



The Annual Congregational Meeting of St. Paul Lutheran Church will be held following worship on Sun., Jan. 15, 2012. We will review the year, approve our operating budget for 2012 and elect members to serve on Church Council. Please plan to be present for this important meeting. Copies of the Annual Report will be available in the narthex on Sun., Jan. 8.

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The staff of St. Paul Lutheran Church would like to express their thanks and gratitude to the congregation for remembering them during this holiday season and for your many blessings.



Our thanks and praise for the donation made to the Special Building Appeal in loving memory of

*Henry and Charlotte Goekemeyer*

*George and Emma Walker*

*Dorothy Walker*

*Art and Flora Brandum*

*Clay and Louise Jackson*

Dear Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$140.00 to the Cridlin Food & Clothing Pantry. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and will enable us to distribute nutritious food to those in need.

The Cridlin Food & Clothing Pantry serves the needs of approximately 400 individuals each month by providing 5-day emergency food orders, new underwear, used clothing, household and personal basic need items, as well as infant essentials. Thank you again for joining with us to serve God by serving others.

To God be the glory,  
Diana Van Horn  
Pantry Directory



## UNITED IN PRAYER

Shepherding God, you are the source of life and health. Surround those who struggle with illness or other difficulties of life and bring them to wholeness and healing especially Ladonna, Susan, Eddie, Mary, Betty, Elicia, Pat, Fred, Joseph, Beverly, John, Elizabeth, Shari, Kathy, Karen, Kris, Steven, Laverne, Stephanie, Isaiah, Juanita, Helen, David, Peggy, Ryan and her family.

We are grateful to God to have celebrated His birthday once again through music, song and word. Thank you Becker family for the lovely music offered in this celebration. And thanks to Emily Conzett, Ben Jones, Betsy and Katy Pettit for sharing their time and talents to the Glory of God. Adult choir and congregation are such a vital and sustaining part of this music ministry. Thanks everybody!



Love,  
Bonnie Kelly  
Directory of Music

The "Burning" of the Greens for our Christmas festival will take place following Sunday School on The Baptism of Our Lord, Sun., Jan. 8, 2012. We encourage everyone to offer some of your time to help in completing this necessary task.



## Christian Sympathy

Golden Noah Chaffin, father of Starla (Tom) Kisling, died Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

God bless and keep Starla and her family in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection.

**We're celebrating!**



*January Birthdays*

- 2 Paula Simpson
- 3 Cindy Jones
- 4 Steven Brown
- 5 Ryan Vickers
- 7 Kathie Cunningham
- 10 Emma Arneson, Maryellen Cremeans
- 15 Carla Bryant
- 16 Mary Lou Fricke, Jennifer Riley
- 18 Nellie Kirby
- 21 Faithanna Hall
- 22 Joel Butler
- 23 Matthew Conzett
- 24 Amy Kisling
- 25 Deborah Arentz
- 27 Cheryl Conzett, Al Schneider

**Cridlin Food Item of the Month  
and other necessities**



48 + cans of Ravioli  
\$23.76/case of 24

Pantry also needs the following donations:  
New underwear (Men's sizes small, med., large, and X large and Women's sizes 5-8 are especially needed)

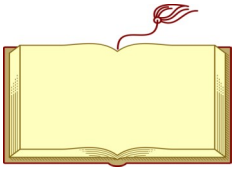


**Volunteers**



Date	Acolyte	Sacristan	Assisting Minister	Communion	Reader
1/1	Katie Bell	Trey Bell	Norma Gensler	Traditional	Norma Gensler
1/8	Alex Lindberg	Kathleen Korstanje	Bill White	Keith Wellman	Steve Golder
1/15	Piper May	Zakare Garnett	Keith Wellman	Bernadette Wellman	Doug Korstanje
1/22	Zoe May	Jacob Simpkins	Bernadette	Bill White	James May
1/29	Emma Simpkins	Heath Wade	David Stuart	Jan Wilson	Sally McGill

Altar Guild—Tom and Sally McGill



We'll study the Gospel of Mark 12 noon to 1:25 p.m., Thurs. beginning 1/5. Bring your lunch and join us! All are welcome. The class is led by Pastor Jennifer.



Altar Flowers 2012

The flower chart for 2012 is posted in the narthex. Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays. Flowers are \$30.00 and your dedication will be printed in the Sunday bulletin.



### BIBLE QUIZ

In the book of Judges, a cycle is repeated many times: The Israelites do "what is evil in the sight of the Lord," God hands them over to an enemy nation, they cry out to the Lord and he appoints a judge, or political/military leader, for them. Under the judge's leadership, the Israelites conquer their adversary and prosper — until they start doing "what is evil in the sight of the Lord" all over again.

Who was not one of these judges?

A. Deborah B. Ehud C. Esau D. Shamgar

### A New Year's blessing

May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people and their causes  
need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year  
ahead.

—Author unknown

### What not to take into the new year

- Self-help books — Trust in God first; don't turn to him as a last resort. (See Proverbs 3:5-6.)
- Tape measure — Consider only God's standards; don't compare yourself to other people. (See Luke 18:9-14.)
- Rearview mirror — Don't live in the past. You'll miss out on what God is doing in your life now. (See Philippians 3:12-14.)
- Gavel — Instead of judging others, pray for them, help them and team with them. (See Luke 6:37-38.)
- Life vest — Don't be overly cautious spiritually. Peter experienced Jesus in a real way because he dared to step out of the boat. (See Matthew 14:22-33.)
- Garage-door opener — We think we're networked but often isolate ourselves from our neighbors. God intended for us to live in community with one another. (See Hebrews 10:23-25.)
- Handcuffs — Don't offer excuses about why you can't help out. God can do amazing things through — and despite — us. Just follow him, with no excuses. (See Mark 6:35-44.)  
—Gregg McCaslin

# January

# 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am  Sunday School 10:45 am  <i>Blessed New Year to you!</i>	<b>2</b> Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> Quilters 9:30 am  Daisy Troop 1757 6-6:45 pm	<b>4</b> Adult Choir 7 pm	<b>5</b> Brown Bag Bible Study –Gospel of Mark 12 noon—1:15 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am  Sunday School 10:45 am  Burning of the Greens	<b>9</b> Writing Group 6-8 pm	<b>10</b> Quilters 9:30 am  Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 pm	<b>11</b> Confirmation 5:30 pm  CCC 6 pm  Adult Choir 7 pm	<b>12</b> Brown Bag Bible Study –Gospel of Mark 12 noon—1:15 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am  Annual Congregational Mtg. following worship	<b>16</b> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	<b>17</b> Quilters 9:30 am  Daisy Troop 1757 6-6:45 pm	<b>18</b> Confirmation 5:30 pm  CCC 6 pm  Adult Choir 7 pm	<b>19</b> Brown Bag Bible Study –Gospel of Mark 12 noon—1:15 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am  Sunday School 10:45 am	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Quilters 9:30 am  Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 pm	<b>25</b> Confirmation 5:30 pm  CCC 6 pm  Adult Choir 7 pm	<b>26</b> Brown Bag Bible Study –Gospel of Mark 12 noon—1:15 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am  Sunday School 10:45 am	<b>30</b> Continuing Ed.	<b>31</b> Quilters 9:30 am  Continuing Ed.				



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*Worship*

*with St. Paul Lutheran*

Sunday Worship 9:30 am  
with Holy Communion

Sunday School 10:45 am