

# The Morningstar

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

**EPIPHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Pastor Rasma Caune • 647-382-5093 • epiphluth@bellnet.ca

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Submissions due 15th of the month

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## ***I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...***

**REVELATION 21:1A**

The New Year has arrived. But, what will it bring? Who will bring it? What newness is to enter your lives and mine? Perhaps this year will bring you some more happiness than the last; for others, new-found sadness. Some may just begin their studies while others finally complete them. We all have great intentions of becoming healthier through diet and exercise, but we also know that we do not always achieve those goals. Maybe we will finally step out of our comfort zone and dare to attempt reconciliation with an estranged family member or friend.

In this Revelation text we are offered a new heaven and a new earth, and we all know how much we really need it. In a world that is threatened – by nuclear arms; by climate change effects on the environment that leave people without family, shelter, and homes; by violence within the home, or on the street, perpetrated against vulnerable people due to cultural differences, and ignorance – we need a new heaven and a new earth. In order to realize such a thing, one needs to have faith that change is possible, that change for the better is desired. For those who have been disillusioned by, or in, the church, it is a matter of trying to regain a sense that there are people within the church and society who are Christ-like: those who show compassion to the grieving, to the poor, to the hungry, to seekers, to those who want somewhere to belong.

At Christmas a child was born in a manger, belonging to the house of David, yet, not seeming to have a place to call home, or certainly not a place where he was welcomed by those of his time. Yet, this new earth and new heaven which is promised to us, comes from that same child – the Son of God made man – who offers up a place of belonging: “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

This is the hope we wish for, that God in Christ will walk with us in this New Year, so that we have the ability to recreate a better world and a better life for all humankind based on love and peace.

### **A Prayer for the New Year**

*God, we don't always know what we really need in life, how to achieve those goals we set for ourselves. Help us to be better people, treating everyone, including ourselves, with the love and respect that you have shown us. Show us your compassion so that we might show compassion. Care for us, so that we might care for others. Show us how! We trust in you. Help us to trust ourselves to do what is right, what is honourable, what is loving. As we entrust our prayers to you, entrust us with your wisdom of discernment for what this world needs, so that we all may live in peace. Amen.*

### **KUDOS**

Thank you to all lectors, musicians, choristers, and choirmaster for

making our Advent and Christmas celebrations joyful.

Thanks to all of you for your cards and creative gifts.

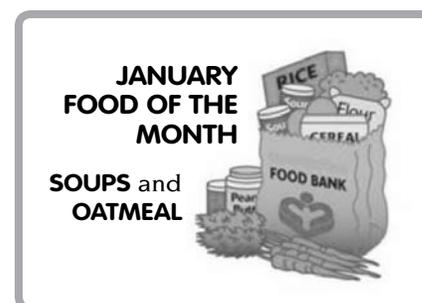
### **Why use bulletins?**

When I was a child, I used to bring my bulletins home because my grandmother couldn't get to church because she was in a wheelchair. There was no accessibility at the time. Those bulletins helped me develop my faith with the help of my grandmother. She would sit next to me and the two of us would sing through all the hymns, and then she would hand me her New Testament to read, which was still written in gothic script. That was a challenge! But, that time together made faith real for us both.

Today, it's your turn. Take a bulletin home with you when you visit your children and grandchildren or a shut-in, and share the Good News. Sing together and tell them why you come to church, what you find helpful for your life in doing so. When we have our joint services, the bulletins are all we need, because they contain the hymns and liturgy and at least one printed Scripture text. Maybe something during worship touched you profoundly. That moment is worth sharing.

Please do not throw out your bulletin until you have shared it with someone else!

**Pastor Rasma**



If you wish to provide flowers for the altar,  
please let the Altar Guild member  
for that Sunday know.



### ALTAR GUILD

**1st Sunday of the Month**  
Ute Wentzel • 416-439-7996

**2nd Sunday of the Month**  
Josie Tedes • 416-283-0895

**3rd Sunday of the Month**  
Paulette Correia • 416-414-4497

**4th Sunday of the Month**  
Hildegard Kinder • 416-283-1836

**5th Sunday of the Month**  
Erika Haebe • 416-266-8660

### EPIPHANY COUNCIL

**GREG FURAN – Council Chair**  
416-284-5622 / gfulan@sympatico.ca

**SIGRID ENGLER – Vice Chair and ELW**  
416-283-8536 / sigengler@gmail.com

**FRED KILIAN – Property, AMMS  
and Spiritual Society**  
416-267-5300 / kilianlf@gmail.com

**GEOFF CREWE – Finance and Stewardship**  
416-267-3383 / geoff.crewe@gcrewe.com

**RON HEINO – Worship and Music**  
416-284-0716 / heino@rogers.com

**DENISE DENNIS – Mutual Ministry  
and Membership Subcommittee**  
416-264-4091 / denise.dennis@outlook.com

**PAULETTE CORREIA – Outreach & Altar Guild**  
416-414-4497 / polly222001@yahoo.ca

**PASTOR RASMA CAUNE –  
Education and Reformation**  
647-382-5093 / rasmac@sympatico.ca

## Another Thank You from the Property Committee

The Property Committee would like to thank Robert and Tony Jesswein for slogging through the snow into the woods and cutting down a tree for Epiphany as well as delivering it to the church. Next we need to thank Franz and Werner for bringing it into the church and setting it up and last but not least we would like to thank ALL those of the congregation who stayed behind after the December 17th service and helped to decorate it. It really is a beautiful Tannenbaum!

A great big thank you to Norbert for setting up and hanging the Advent Wreath. How he manages to do this every year on his own is beyond me as it weighs a ton.

Also thanks go to Andrea for all the extra work over the Holiday Season. With the additional services over Advent the church requires a lot more cleaning.

A big thank you goes to AMMS for their co-operation during the Advent season with all our extra activities. Whenever we make a request they are more than prepared to accommodate our needs.

And finally a massive thank you to Kelly's Tree Care for removing the huge DEAD Fir tree from in front of the old Parsonage. I do not like to think what this removal would have done to the Property budget if it had been necessary for us to pay for it.

Fred Kilian

## ELW welcomes 2018!

Happy New Year! The Church Women had many blessings throughout 2017 and we look forward to continue with our regular activities as well as some NEW ones in 2018.

We thank the congregation for their support of our activities throughout 2017 but especially during Advent. The season commences with the build up to the Bazaar and even though we downsized this year, our efforts were rewarded none the less! The Church Seniors faithfully support our activities throughout the year and in recognition of this, the ELW gladly provided the main course at their December Christmas luncheon, courtesy of Vienna Fine Foods on Birchmount Road. The sandwich platter at the Tree Decorating event was also appreciated!



Changes in our Recycling efforts: we NO LONGER accept Campbell Soup product labels or milk bags as these programs are discontinued; but please do continue bringing in egg cartons for the Foodbank, pop/beer can tabs for the Legion Wheelchair campaign, eye glasses for the Rotary Club charity and your used postage stamps for the Bethel charities in Germany.

In consideration of the busy December we had and the Winter ice and snow concerns for our members, ELW will NOT conduct a January meeting. We will next meet in February for our budget planning and guest speaker. But do stay tuned in the event that a Winter soup lunch combined with the Seniors will still happen.

Lilli Kilian • 416-267-5300 • kilianlf@gmail.com

P.S. There are various plates, bowls, platters and serving utensils to be found in the Church Kitchen that were brought in for the Bazaar and other Advent events. Next time you are at the church, please go into the kitchen and take home things that belong to you. Thank you!

### TREASURER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2017	RECEIVED	SPENT	SURPLUS(DEFICIT)
CURRENT	\$3,989.67	\$13,521.17	
BENEVOLENCE	1,334.00	1,334.00	
AMMS RENTAL INCOME	3,775.00		
AMMS PARSONAGE UTILITIES	2,390.39		
AMMS SANCTUARY RENTAL	100.00		
FAITH FINANCIAL	300.00		
REFORMATION BAGS SOLD	100.00		
<b>CURRENT MONTH TOTALS</b>	<b>\$11,989.06</b>	<b>\$14,855.17</b>	<b>(\$2,866.11)</b>
<b>YEAR TO DATE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$128,783.10</b>	<b>\$139,106.03</b>	<b>(\$10,322.93)</b>

Yours in Christ, Nalini Badley, Treasurer

## 2017 Advent Bazaar Proceeds

Bake Sale: 846.50 / Craft Sale: 505.75 / Raffle Tickets: 1072.00  
White Elephant: 690.30 / FINAL TOTAL: 3114.55

### Raffle Prizes Winners

- 1 LEBKUCHEN SCHMIDT GINGERBREAD CHEST  
Donated by the Gingerbread World in Winnipeg  
WINNER: Vivianne Radford
- 2 TABLE CLOTH  
Donated by Trudy Walker  
WINNER: Mike Douglas
- 3 FRESH EVERGREEN FLORAL ARRANGEMENT  
Donated by Paulette Correia  
WINNER: Inge Toner
- 4 CHOCOLATES/CHRISTMAS COOKIES BASKET  
Donated by McDougall & Brown Funeral Home  
WINNER: Jim Pickett
- 5 ASSORTED GIFT BASKET  
Donated by Giffen Mack Funeral Home  
WINNER: Ursula Albrecht
- 6 CHOCOLATE GIFT BASKET  
Donated by Dorothea Cameron  
WINNER: Adams
- 7 \$42.00 COUNTRY IN GIFT CERTIFICATE  
Donated by Ute Wentzel  
WINNER: Ron
- 8 \$40.00 BLUFFERS RESTAURANT GIFT CERTIFICATE  
Obtained by Lilli Kilian  
WINNER: Mariam
- 9 \$35.00 FLOWERS IN WEST HILL GIFT CERTIFICATE  
Obtained by Nalini Badley  
WINNER: Sigi Sommer
- 10 \$32.95 GERHARD'S GIFT CERTIFICATE  
Obtained by Sigi Sommer  
WINNER: Greg Furan
- 11 CHOCOLATES/MUGS GIFT SET  
Donated by Ingrid Warren (Irmgard Hack's daughter)  
WINNER: D. Prucak
- 12 DECORATIVE CHRISTMAS BASKET  
Donated by Ingrid Warren (Irmgard Hack's daughter)  
WINNER: Edna Butt
- 13 \$25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM VIENNA FINE FOODS  
Obtained by Lilli Kilian  
WINNER: Ursula Albrecht
- 14 \$25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM VIENNA FINE FOODS  
Obtained by Lilli Kilian  
WINNER: Zita
- 15 STARBUCKS GIFT BAG  
Obtained by Paulette Correia  
WINNER: Erin Braney
- 16 SWISS CHALET DINNER FOR 2  
Obtained by Paulette Correia  
WINNER: Fred Kilian
- 17 WINE HOLDER WITH BOTTLE OF WINE  
Donated by Liesel Haag  
WINNER: Mike Chessman
- 18 DINNER FOR TWO AT AMICA AT SWAN LAKE  
Donated by Margaret Tober  
WINNER: Yvonne Falke

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**God** holds each of us  
by a string. When we sin,  
we cut the string. But God ties it up again,  
making a knot. Each time our wrongdoing  
cuts the string, God ties another knot,  
drawing us up closer to Him.

MEISTER ECKHART

# January 2018

**Upcoming Surgery:** Pastor Rasma will undergo bariatric surgery on January 8, 2018. She will take three weeks off for recovery. In the event of a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Pastor Peter Lisinski at 905-424-7649.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>  NEW YEAR'S DAY	<b>2</b> 1:30 PM — German Seniors	<b>3</b> 11AM -2 PM Church Office	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> WHITE 9 AM German Worship Service 10:30 AM English Communion Service	<b>8</b> 1 PM — Craft Circle	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10-11:30 AM — Bible Class	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</b> GREEN 9 AM German Lay Led Service 10:30 AM English Lay Led Service	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:15 PM — Council Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</b> GREEN 9 AM German Communion Service 10:30 AM English Communion Service Pastor Peter Lisinski will lead both services.	<b>22</b> 1 PM — Craft Circle	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10-11:30 AM — Bible Class	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>4th Sunday of Epiphany</b> GREEN 9 AM German Lay Led Service 10:30 AM English Lay Led Service	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>2</b> Collate Morningstar	<b>3</b>