

The Parish Light

The Parish of the Northern Lights Newsletter
February 2019



God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book to while away the hours.
His gift was to become a man, so He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us, so you and I could live.
He gave us sweet salvation, and instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies and love our Savior, too.
So as we give our Valentines, let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give is that He gave everything.

.....by *Joanna Fuchs*



***"Change can hurt, be uncomfortable,
and be difficult in the beginning.***

Remember this English Proverb:

***Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over,
it became a butterfly."***

.....Lisa Rusczyk Ed.D.,

Our Call to Revival:

- R**ecall your own Christian experience
renew your promises to God
resolve to do your best in his service
- E**nter into each meeting wholeheartedly
exert every effort to win someone to Christ
enlist this person in service after his commitment
- V**isualize the condition of the lost.
know that you will do something about it.
voice your deep desire daily in prayer.
- I**nvite people to all the services.
impress on them the importance of attendance.
intensify your own efforts.
- V**iew the fields "white unto harvest".
volunteer your services wherever needed
visit in homes as much as possible.
- A**spire to all that is good and holy.
attend every service, if possible.
allow yourself to be used of the Lord
- L**ook on the world, needy and sinful.
love people freely, for they need your love.
let the Holy Spirit guide you.

Toward the end of the graveside service, there was a massive clap of thunder followed by a tremendous bolt of lightning and then even more thunder rumbling in the distance.

The old man looked at the Pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there."

Source: St. Joseph Church Bulletin

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GIVE US MORE POCKET-WATCH CHRISTIANS

Many Christians are like wheelbarrows: no good unless pushed

Others are like canoes: they need to be paddled

Some are like kites: If you don't keep a string on them, they fly away

Still others are like balloons: full of wind and just waiting for a chance to explode

Then there are others like footballs: you can't tell which way they will bounce

But, Praise the Lord, many Christians are like good pocket watches: with open faced and busy hands, they are well-regulated and full of good works.

Christians like this are the backbone of every church.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

God does not demand we be **SUCCESSFUL**, God demands we be **FAITHFUL!**



Mother Theresa speaking a great truth of perspective for life.

THREE GOOD REASONS TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH

Before you say no when asked to take a job in your church, think about some reasons why you should say yes. There are at least three good reasons why every Christian ought to serve his church.

1. **Your Christian life needs a service outlet.** Nothing helps you to grow as a Christian like putting your faith into practice by teaching, singing, ushering, or serving on a church committee.
2. **You have a testimony to share with others.** The reason why you are asked to serve is that your fellow Christians have confidence in you and your ability. Your Christian testimony will be a good influence in the lives of those whom you lead and serve.
3. **Your church needs you.** There is no way for our church to get its work done unless members volunteer their time. When you accept a place of responsibility, you help your church move forward in the name of Christ.



I've Learned

I've learned....

that we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for

I've learned

that it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular

I've learned

that the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

I've learned...that when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned...

that love, not time, heals all wounds

I've learned ...

that everyone I meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned...

that when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (NRSV)

- 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.
- 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
- 14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.
- 15 If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.
- 16 And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.
- 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?
- 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.
- 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?
- 20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body.
- 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."
- 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,
- 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;
- 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member,
- 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.
- 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.
- 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
- 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.
- 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?
- 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?
- 31 But strive for the greater gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Paul's congregation in Corinth was a fractured group. If you've ever been part of a church family experiencing dissension or division, know you're in good company. This letter is Paul's appeal for unity. Like Nehemiah in this Old Testament lesson, Paul will call God's people back to the basics. He'll preach that more unites them than divides them. He'll remind them of their baptism, that they are all brothers and sisters--one in the Spirit, one in the Lord, one in mission. He'll tell them that this is Christ's church, where there is a place for everybody--no exceptions. All are welcome.

Paul reminds us that we are the body of Christ, that we all have gifts. We celebrate this unity in diversity. We acknowledge that at the foot of the cross we are all the same. There God gives us one another; we need each other, and we can always do far more together than alone.

O God, may your Spirit move every human heart, that the barriers dividing us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease, and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace. Amen.
(adapted from ELW prayers)

Wolfgang W. Laudert, '11
Pastor, Christ Lutheran Church, Staten Island, N.Y.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Chianna Pedersen, (Amanda Oldale's daughter) formerly of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Boyle, is getting confirmed at All Saints' Anglican Church in Athabasca on February 10, 2019 at 10:30 am. We would like to thank the parishioners in Boyle for helping her get this far.

Parish of the Northern Lights



Sunday February 10 2019

Service at 11am

At St. Andrew's Zion, Colinton

Followed by AGM and Potluck Lunch

Every member of the Parish is important, needed and encouraged to attend. Be part of the community, find out what's going on and help make decisions for the coming year

Youth Group News



Dan Lemke has joined us with youth group and helping out.

Youth Group / Alpha Youth Film Series - Below are the next 2 dates we've selected. We will start at 6:30 pm with supper provided and go from there, ending at about 8:30pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us and bring a friend. If you need a ride let us know.

Friday February 1

Friday March 15

Thank you so much to everyone who has provided a meal so far! Always Delicious!

It is great opportunity to get to know the youth and for the youth to get to know members of the parish. If you are interested in providing a meal for us, please be in touch with Joanna and she will put you on the schedule.

If you have any questions or need more information please contact Joanna (joannamuzyka@hotmail.com) or 780-689-8053

All youth grade 7 and up (Age 12+) are welcome so grab a friend and join us!

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**EVERYDAY and PRACTICAL DISCIPLESHIP**

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is not mere theology. Being a disciple of Jesus is the only means of living out our salvation in the here and now. Being a disciple means living as a disciple every day in every way.

So we have to figure out not **WHY** we are disciples, but **HOW** we will be disciples. We have to figure out what discipleship looks like "on the ground".

On March 8 – 10 the Parish of the Northern Lights will explore

- ✓ who disciples actually serve;
- ✓ what the elements of discipleship are;
- ✓ how the gift of life makes us stewards of life;
- ✓ what genuine stewardship actually looks like.



If you've been wondering what God expects from your day-to-day life, then this workshop is for you.

**Date: March 8, 2019 at 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.      March 9, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (lunch provided)**

**March 10, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. Eucharist      Where: St. Andrew's – Zion Church, Colinton**

**Diocese of Athabasca**  
**COMPETENT AND CONFIDENT II**  
**Lay Readers' Conference**

A conference for all lay readers, lay readers in training and lay reader candidates.

**Friday, April 5, 2019 7:00 p.m.**  
**To Sunday, April 7, 2019 ~ 1:00 p.m.**  
**St. Peter's Ecumenical Church**  
**Slave Lake, Alberta**

“Competent and Confident II” is aimed at:  
building competencies and confidence in writing and delivering sermons,  
building competencies and confidence in ministry at time of death,  
building supportive relationships.

There is no registration fee (A freewill offering to help defray costs will be taken) to attend this conference and the following will be provided:

- two nights' accommodation,
- meals on the Saturday of the conference.
- a reception on the Friday night,
- a potluck lunch on the Sunday.

Participants will be responsible for:

- their own travel to and from the event,
- supper on the Friday (if desired).

**Registration Forms Are Available Now**



(See psalm 100)  
MOM SAYS WE SING HYMNS TO MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD ... I PERSONALLY LIKE TO YELL "YIPPEE" EVERY NOW AND THEN