

Holy Apostles "Grapevine"

The Monthly Newsletter of Holy Apostles Episcopal Church

FROM THE DESKS OF
PASTORS SHERYL AND CHRIS KESTER-BEYER

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of my favorite scripture verses from this time of year is the Gospel reading for Christmas Day, John 1: 1-14, but particularly v. 5 "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it."

This year especially with the never-ending war in Syria and the Middle East, and so many other places as well as the divisiveness of this year's election and it's aftermath, it is not difficult to see that there is a lot of darkness in our world. From violence, war and terrorism to illness and death and so much more, it can seem sometimes as if the darkness is overtaking our world. Truth is, it has always been so. But the promise of Advent and Christmas is the promise of John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." (v.5)

At times it may seem as if the darkness is winning – at times the darkness may seem overwhelming – at times we may not be able to see the light at all – but the promise of Jesus' birth and resurrection is that even when it seems as if the darkness has won – IT HAS NOT!!!

God's light (which is Jesus) still shines in our world. Whenever a child is born – whenever a sin is forgiven – whenever a relationship is restored – whenever ever an illness is cured – whenever suffering is eased – whenever hatred and prejudice is overcome – whenever reconciliation replaces conflict – whenever healing and wholeness replace pain and brokenness – whenever someone dies knowing the peace and power of the resurrection— then we can be sure that the mystery and miracle of God's light continues to shine upon us.

As we once again enter into this Advent and Christmas season, let us not forget to praise, thank and worship, 'The Light' which cannot be overcome, that is, Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, the one who is 'God with Us'.

May the light of God shine brightly in your life and in our world!

Pastor Sheryl



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

1730 18th St/PO Box 188
Mitchell, NE 69357
(308) 623-1969

Email: apostles@embarqmail.com

Sunday service: 10:30am
Office hours: Mornings - MTW

Mitchell Ministerial

Association Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is asking for the following donation item(s):

December-cold cereal

Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Pantry coordinators:

Susan Weitzel-(308)623-2684 or

Karen French (308)623-188

Backpack Program

The Backpack Program is asking for the

Following donation item(s):

December-Single servings of dry milk

Prayer Chain

If anyone would like to be part of the Parish prayer chain, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex; or call Maryruth (623-2491) to have your name added.

Coffee Hour Request

Maryruth has asked for a few people to sign up to provide the cookies and juice that is served during coffee hour. There are about 5 months open, with no one providing the snacks; the sheet is in the narthex. Thanks for your help!

Poinsettias for Christmas

There is a container and sign-up sheet on the small table by the South door if you are interested in contributing for the Christmas season poinsettias.

Flower Chart for 2017

The 2017 flower chart has been posted. If people would prefer, they may decide to make a donation to any parish organization, and the artificial flowers will be dedicated in their loved one's name.

You will still need to sign up on the flower chart.

FYI- Names and Contact Information

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|
| Priests-in-charge: | The Reverend Chris Kester-Beyer | (402)694-9189 (cell) |
| | The Reverend Sheryl Kester-Beyer | (402)694-9182 (cell) |
| | | (308)631-7656 (Rector) |
| Deacon: | The Reverend Angela Jones | (308)631-1922 (cell) |
| Senior Warden | Lee Hughson | (308)623-2004 |
| Junior Warden | Judy Kieler | (308)225-4645 |
| Holy Apostles Website | www.holyapostlesmitchell.org | |
| Facebook | Holy Apostles Mitchell NE | |

DIOCESE OF NEBRASKA - RESOURCE LIST

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| 109 N 18 th St | 855-341-5373 |
| Omaha, NE 68102 | (402)341-5373 |
| www.episcopal-ne.org (website) | (402)341-8683 (fax) |
| dioadmin@episcopal-ne.org (e-mail) | |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Bishop: | The Rt. Reverend J. Scott Barker | Sbarker@episcopal-ne.org |
| Canon to the Ordinary | The Reverend Canon Elizabeth Easton | Leaston@episcopal-ne.org |
| Diocesan Administrator | Lindsey Rowe | Dioadmin@episcopal-ne.org |
| Director of Finance | Beth Byrne | Bbyrne@episcopal-ne.org |
| Archdeacon | The Reverend Betsy Bennett | Deaconbetsy@windstream.net |

(Diocesan Environmental Ministries & Ministry of Diaconate)

December Sunday Service Assignments

| Dates | Lector/Server | Acolytes | Ushers | Gifts | Coffee |
|-------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 12/4 | Sylvia/Maryruth | Mary & Merrill | Steve J/Chris C | Steve & Marilyn | Steve & Sylvia |
| 12/11 | Andee/Jenny | Clancey | Lee H/John P | Nick & Katy | Andee |
| 12/18 | Deb/Maryruth | Matt | Nick S/Larry W | Pete & Nancy Sakurada | Leanne & Nancy |
| 12/25 | Marilyn/Jenny | Mary & Merrill | Gilbert K/Steve J | Sharon | Lee & Jenny |
| 1/1 | Leanne/Maryruth | Matt | Lee H/Chris C | Chris & Steph | Nick & Katy |

December Altar: Nikki Rose & Marilyn Johnson

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------|--------|----------------|
| Dec 4 | Patty Kurtz | Dec 7 | Robert Marlowe |
| Dec 4 | Rich Taedter | Dec 15 | Nick Sakurada |
| Dec 6 | Margaret Fiegel | Dec 23 | Merrill Newman |
| Dec 7 | Scott Lane | | |

Anniversaries:

| | |
|--------|------------------------|
| Dec 4 | Mark & Annette Knaub |
| Dec 30 | Lee & Jenny Hughson |
| Dec 31 | Abel & A,ber Plasencio |

December Altar Flowers

Given by:

In Memory of:

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dec 4 | Margaret Fiegel | James & Margaret Haggerty |
| | | Lowell, Lester & Lorraine Fiegel |
| Dec 25 | Johnson & Francisco families | loved ones |

The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Romans 13:12

December 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | 1 ECW meeting 1 pm @ Holy Apostles | 2 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am | 3 |
| 4 9:30 am Adult & Children Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service Confirmation Class 4-6 pm | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Group Reunion@ Penny's 7 am | 10 |
| 11 9:30 am Adult & Children Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am | 17 |
| 18 9:30 am Adult & Children Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service Sunday School Program in church | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am | 24 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Services |
| 25 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Service | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Group Reunion @ Penny's 7 am | 31 |
| | | | | | | |