

IMMANUEL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

20 MONTERERY CIRCLE ~ LAKEWOOD NJ 08701

Rev. James McKinley

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“THE LANTERN”

JANUARY 2020

Stephanie Palzer

732-363-1599 office #

secretary@ilutheran.net

Greetings from your Pastor . . .

The Twelfth Day of Christmas

Epiphany is the twelfth day of Christmas originally celebrated in honor of our Lords Baptism or His Nativity. It has drifted into obscurity except in those cultures that celebrate it as “Three Kings”, the day gifts are exchanged. The date of January 6th often falls midweek, but in much of western Christian Churches it celebrated on the nearest Sunday, which is what we will do here at Immanuel.

While the season speaks to us of "manifestation" or showing forth the revelation of Christ to the gentiles, there is a thread running through the lessons, beginning at Christmas, of coming home. Mary and Joseph came home to Joseph's tribal home of Bethlehem, but soon afterward the little family were to become refugees, having to flee to Egypt to avoid the threat posed by Herod. But if you read carefully you see that the texts do not define home as a place, but rather, as a state of

being in the presence of God and in the company of friends and loved ones who have gone before us. When we come to God's home, we find ourselves like those who visited the baby Jesus, no

longer estranged from one another but joyously united with God's loving family. That, too, is part of what we celebrate. Come join the celebration.

Pastor McKinley





Celebrations January

Birthdays:

1st ~ Agnes Bausch
5th ~ Addison Gerhard
13th ~ Maryann Kerns
14th ~ Kathi Dyroff
16th ~ Roberta McGilvery
18th ~ Rev. James McKinley
22nd ~ Maria Coppola
29th ~ Erin Gerhard
31st ~ Don Kerns

Anniversaries:

None

Servers for January

Lay Asst.:

5th: Terry Stahlhut ~ 12th: Roberta McGilvery ~ 19th: Todd Engle ~
26th: Kris Calabro

Lector:

5th: Millie Martin ~ 12th: Sharon Rollier ~ 19th: Todd Engle ~
26th: Kris Calabro

Ushers:

5th: Lana Hyer & Eva LaBrozzi ~ 12th: Carole Hepp & Sharon Rollier ~
19th: Millie Martin & Roberta McGilvery ~ 26th: Scott & Kim Brown

Altar Guild: Donna Palzer

The Faith Exploration Group

The next meeting is scheduled for

January 20th at 10:00 AM

The Christmas wreaths/decorations for the exterior church doors are given to the Glory and Honor of God and in loving memory of Rita Kukk and Anita Paerg.
By Kathy Luther and family.

ATTENTION!!!

**HAS YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE
NUMBER CHANGED???**

Please contact the church office at:

732-363-1599

Or email: secretary@ilutheran.net





ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!

On Sunday, **January 19th** we will have a congregational meeting to vote for new church council members and other items. If you think you would be interested in serving on Church council please speak with pastor, Donna Palzer or any current member of council.

**All Committee Reports are due by
JANUARY 12th to the secretary!**

JANUARY 5TH ~

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 12TH ~

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 19TH ~

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL





**Food Pantry
Thanksgiving
Baskets &
Our Volunteers!**



**FOOD PANTRY
CHRISTMAS SHOP!**





Writer's Corner



The Thief

Late in November,
and into December,
I look out my window and see
A lone tiny Leaf -
The only one there,
Attached to a branch on a tree.

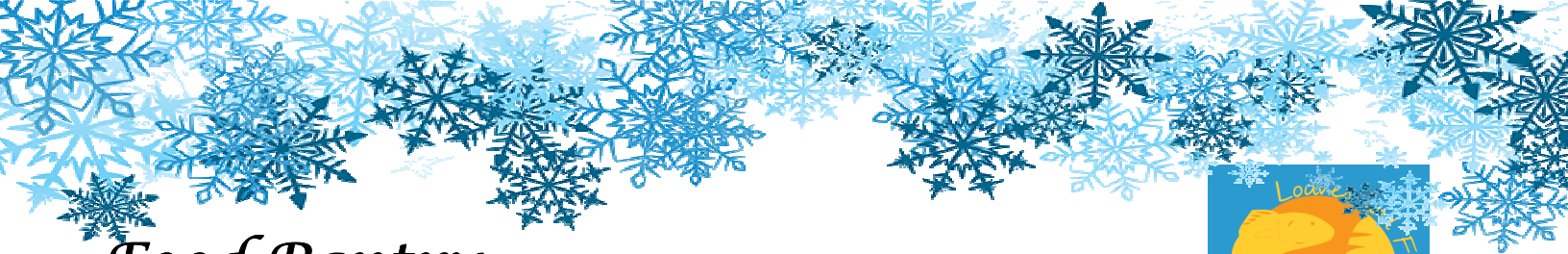
The frigid winds blow,
Weak twigs fall below,
The little leaf shivers and shakes.
The wind thinks it wins
But the fight just begins
And the leaf does all that it takes -

Like a bulldog it bites,
Holding on days and nights,
to the branch of the sleeping tree.

It's tossed to and fro
As the mighty wind blows
Trying to set that leaf free.

And I'm like that leaf
And death is the thief
Trying to take me away,
But I will hang on
Till the thief is gone
And God brings me to peaceful days.

Jane McKinley



Food Pantry



UPDATE:

The food pantry continues to remain busy. For November we helped 117 families which totaled 481 people. We gave out 42 turkeys and Thanksgiving baskets. I would like to thank the Howell Girl Scout troop 586 and their parents for assisting us with the set up and distribution. We held the holiday gift and clothes giveaway on Saturday December 14th. We are currently in need of cereal, oatmeal, and paper shopping bags.

If anyone would like to help out at the food pantry, please contact me.

Thank you for all of your continued support

Scott

* see page 4 for pictures!

Pantry Hours & Dates

January 9th, 23rd & 25th

10 AM to 12 PM

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TO:
