



# The In Touch

Volume 53, Issue 1

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*Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation*

## Ramblings from the Deacon....

### Sunday School

We'd been thinking of ways to change Sunday School so that each child gets the best experience they can when this showed up in the ECMN news email in October.

- **By Ritalee Walters, Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal Church**

- Our daughter has been receiving communion and worshipping at our church since the age of one or two. She is free to sit at a small table in front of the altar and color, or play with Play Doh or toys. She is hugged and kissed at the sign of peace, carries up the gifts, walks around with collection baskets, rings the church bell, sings along when she knows the melody or words, holds hands with our whole congregation for the Our Father, and puts out the candles at the end of service. She snacks, plays with other kids, sometimes asks to use the bathroom or go home during the service, and is always welcomed, blessed, encouraged, and treated like a full member of the church. The driftwood and stone crucifix on our altar was made by a member when she was five. Whether kids want to snuggle close to their parents or play with other kids, a variety of church experience is open to them. I like that she sees women in positions of power within the church, and all marriages sanctified. She sees people show up regularly to express their love of God, each other and creation.

As much as I love the feel of this, I don't think we will go there in practice (a brief pause for sighs of relief), still, a change is needed.

The older ones are eager to be a part of the service and at our last team meeting Sam made a list of things they could do. Our hope is to build on success from small things to bigger ones. We will begin working them into the service in the coming weeks. Some of the feedback I've had in talking about the Sunday School is to go back to having them sit with various adults when they come up. We'll start again this month. Feel free to remind me on Sunday mornings (old dog new trick thing). Once all the kids have arrived one of them will bring the appropriate number of shapes up to the back pew. These can be passed out during the peace if someone will take charge of that?

The younger children really need their own class. I understand that there used to be a separate service for the younger ones and I remember having that at my church also. It's not something we can do right now, besides, I love having the little ones included in our worship. Both Tyler, Colin, and Emma have pointed at the cross behind the altar and said in

hushed reverent voices "That's Jesus.". If anyone is willing to take a turn with them please let me know. The older children would be happy to help. One of my thoughts is that they stay up stairs until the Gospel, then come down for a short class (song, story, prayer and a coloring page) and go back up for communion. It's not ideal but I could just about manage the two classes that way with a Junior Leader(s) though we might have to have part of the class outside of the room so I'm able to monitor both at once. Never fear- we will keep any painting in our room. Once we know who is able to lend a hand we will see about arranging Safe Church Training.

Any help, comments, or suggestions you give will be appreciated. The service may not look or flow as it always has but I don't think we will have dramatic changes and we'll iron things out as we go along.

Peace,

Mel

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*Heading to church?*

## *Rides*

*When our weather is acting up, or streets and walkways are slippery, some of our Senior Members may need a ride to church. Are you able to help with this? If so, please leave your name and number with Karen in the office.*

*Thank you ...*



- 1/6 ~ Jeanne Corrin  
1/9 ~ Mike Noland  
1/12 ~ George Schlieff  
1/21 ~ Layna Padesky (granddaughter  
Byrne & Carole Johnson)  
1/25 ~ Jan Menefee (daughter of Waiva)  
1/30 ~ Nicholas Padesky (grandson of  
Byrne & Carole Johnson)



- 1/9 ~ John Briggs  
1/24 ~ Taylor Wright  
1/26 ~ Alan Wright



- 1/28 ~ Delbert & Bonnie Hickey

# Annual Meeting

Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 11:30 a.m.

We will need 3 Vestry members

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# Community Café

Holy Trinity Volunteers

Thursday ~ Feb 1<sup>st</sup>

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# January '18 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<p>7</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  <b>10:00 am</b>  <b>Epiphany</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim</p>	<p>Lee Grim</p>	<p>Mike &amp; Tricia  Brennard</p>	<p>Mike &amp; Tricia  Brennard</p>
<p>14</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  <b>10:00 am</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim</p>	<p>Jeanne Corrin</p>	<p>Jeanne Corrin  Michele Dahlin</p>	<p>Donna Day  Karen Walls</p>
<p>21</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  <b>10:00 am</b>  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim</p>	<p>Erik Strand</p>	<p>Erik Strand  Lee Grim</p>	<p>Gary &amp; Carolyn  Davison</p>
<p>28</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  <b>4:00 pm</b>  <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim</p>	<p>Lee Grim</p>	<p>Georgeann &amp; Andy  Wright</p>	<p>Georgeann &amp; Andy  Wright</p>



# January 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Altar Guild
						<b>Tricia</b> <i>The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<i>Ruby's Pantry Reg. 4:30 Dist. 5-6:30</i>	 9:30 am Coffee Landing Vestry 4 pm ? Team meeting 6pm				<b>Tricia</b>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						Georgeann & Donna
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting 11:30		Newsletter Deadline (Vestry)				Georgeann & Donna
28	29	30	31			
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.				Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Trinity Community Café Volunteers		

