



# Trinity Lutheran Church "Goodfarm" LCMS

P.O. Box 27 (515 E. Stonewall Road) Dwight, IL 60420

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**December 15. . . . .January 2020**

## The Early Festivals of the Church

### EPIPHANY

At its beginning, the Church had no Church Year. While it enjoyed varying degrees of freedom from place to place, it always occupied officially the status of an underground movement. All of its activities had to be unobtrusive. The whole political atmosphere was inhospitable to the development of a Church Year.

The beginnings of the Church Year, the distinct manner in which the Church measures time, goes back to the year 313 when, by the Edict of Toleration, the Emperor Constantine accorded Christianity legal status in the Roman Empire.

The **Resurrection of our Lord** on Easter Day was the first of all the festivals observed by the Church. Second only to Easter, both in date and origin and early importance, was **Pentecost**. It too had fallen on a Sunday, seven weeks after Easter. The period bounded by these two festivals was the first liturgical season of the Church.

The third great early festival of the Church was **Epiphany**, celebrated on January 6. It was originally a festival which commemorated both the birth and the baptism of Christ. Jesus was born as a human baby in Bethlehem. In Epiphany we see Him more clearly as God. In Epiphany there is an emphasis on who Jesus is and why He was sent by the Father to live among us and show us the Father.

*Advent tells us Christ is near.  
Christmas tells us Christ is here.  
In Epiphany we trace  
All the beauty of His grace.*

The number of Sundays in Epiphany depends on the date of Easter. This year there are four. The last Sunday of Epiphany is always Transfiguration.

## The Remaining Services in 2019

# **EPIPHANY**

**Sunday School and Confirmation – 9:00AM**  
**Sunday Worship – 10:00AM**

**Jan. 5 - Communion . . . . . Epiphany**  
*“Epiphany’s Answer to What Child Is This”*  
 John 1:1-18

**Jan 12 - Worship . . . 1st Sun. after Epiphany**  
*“Did John Invite Jesus to be Baptized?”*  
 Matthew 3:13-17

**Jan 19-Communion 2nd Sun. after Epiphany**  
*“Did John Have an Epiphany?”*  
 John 1:29-42a

**Jan 26 - Worship. . . 3rd Sun. after Epiphany**  
*“Let’s Talk about Fish”*  
 Matthew 4:12-23

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### COMMUNION SET-UP

December –Thank you Leslie Jackman!

The **new** Communion Set-up poster is on the bulletin board. Current and new volunteers are encouraged to begin signing up for **2020**. If you have questions speak to any of the people listed on the poster. Thank You!

### JANUARY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

5 – Joshua Thorson      19 – Landon Burkhardt  
 12 – Ethan Adkins      22 – Joshua Thorson

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### 2020 OFFERING BOXES

The boxes for the new year are on a table in the fellowship hall. If you wish envelopes for 2020 and don’t see your name on a box, please speak with Cindy Leonard at church or give her a call at 779-225-8411



**On Jan. 19, after Service,** we plan to undecorate. After the work we will enjoy a **Pizza and Salad meal together.** In January there will be a sign-up for a few to bring **dessert.**

We had a record number put up the beautiful decorations. The liturgical Christmas season ends with Epiphany, Jan. 6, but we are going to enjoy them for a couple weeks more..

### TRINITY WOMEN IN mission

All women are invited on Jan. 19 for a brief time to set a meeting date in February. We have some good days ahead.

Ruth Ann Fulton reported husband Jim helped her deliver **180 shoe boxes** for **Operation Christmas Child** from our L.W.M.L Zone. 30 of those boxes are a direct result from donations from Trinity Goodfarm.



**Cindy Leonard** is distributing the updated **Phone Tree** numbers to all callers. The bulletin board has a complete list. If a service needs to be cancelled because a winter storm makes the roads too hazardous you will be called or texted.

### Christmas Vacation

Pastor & Joan will be away between Christmas and New Year and return home Jan. 2.

### While Pastor Is Away

Our neighbor, Pastor John Mueller, at Emmanuel in Dwight, will be on call if a pastor is needed in an emergency. His numbers are: **Church: 815-584-3433, Home: 815-374-5057**

Or you can call Pastor Mitschke on his cell for assistance or for any reason.

### Dart Baseball Schedule

Jan. 6 – Trinity at Essex  
 Jan. 20 – Trinity at St. Peter

We are hoping for another player or two. Call Capt. Don Sigler (815-448 2939) and he will fill you in on the details.

