

FEBRUARY 2018

SCOTCH CHURCH



PASTOR'S EPISTLE....



The season of Epiphany is upon us. "Epiphany" means "to reveal."

Humans have an almost universal longing for home. We long for those memories of security or comfort, we long for familiar paths and roadways, and the old maple tree in the front yard. We long for what was, knowing we can never return once we have been changed by life. For some, this means we live forever as wanderers and refugees. In the gospel text, Jesus and his family are refugees far from their home in Galilee. Shortly after the events in this Scripture they will leave for Egypt, fleeing from Herod's persecutions and becoming political refugees.

Still, no matter where we are or how far we travel, as Christians we are always home. Even secular notions of home are more about what physical location means to us, rather than mere location. This is particularly true for us as God's people. For the children of God, home is less a place than it is the experience of the presence of God. It is the glory and wonder of a restored Jerusalem, and as Isaiah promises: "Then you shall see and be radiant" (Isa. 60:5). Home is being in the company of God's people gathered from the ends of the earth and dining together. Home is that holy place in the presence of God where everyone has a place at the table and all are treated equally.

This is a home everyone can recognize and everyone can experience. This is a home for those whose families are broken, a home for those who are homeless, a home for all people. This is the place Jesus creates for us. So we travel on, with a star to guide us, until finally that star shines down on our home. We enter slowly, maybe even with trepidation, and are overwhelmed with joy. What else can we do but offer Jesus the best we have: our very lives?

~ Pastor Carl Pattison



February CELEBRATIONS

We celebrate your special day !



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

to...

- 7... Travis McKnight
- 8... Janice McKnight
- 12... Addison McKnight
- 12... Bryce Easterwood
- 14... Melissa Quintavalle
- 22... Leslie Hargrave
- 22... Michael Fisher

Email or phone your dates to me to be added to the calendar so that we can recognize your family's special days.

~ Mindy Fisher
fisher@potdam.edu

Life of the Church

Feb 28 **March Newsletter info due to Mindy.**

Mar 11 **Daylight Savings—
2 AM -Clocks spring ahead this Sunday**

March 25 **Palm Sunday**

March 29 **Maundy Thursday**

March 30 **Good Friday**

April 1 **Easter Sunday**



NEW KEY.....

The Chapel door lock has been replaced and re-keyed. If you currently have a key for that door, please note that you will need to contact Bill Fisher for a replacement key.



The Pastor Nominating Committee has begun the work of reviewing resumes of prospective candidates, and is meeting weekly for discussion.

HOSPITALITY LIST FOR 2018

Every month a different committee takes responsibility for providing the refreshments for our coffee hours. It involves preparing, serving and cleaning up afterwards and is always appreciated as it give us a chance to visit and catch up with members of our congregation.

- January - Property**
- February - Presbyterian Women**
- March - Finance**
- April - Mission**
- May - Chipman Crew**
- June - Christian Ed and Discipleship**



(No coffee hour during months of July and August)

- September - Christian Ed and Discipleship**
- October - Mission**
- November - Worship**
- December - Evangelism**

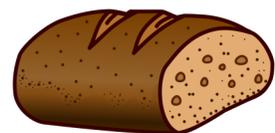
~ Provided by Melanie Morgan

A **Souper Sunday** fund raiser to benefit the Women of Grace Widows' Fund will be held on Sunday, March 11th. After worship, take home a quart or pint container of homemade soup with a loaf of bread. Cookies also available!



Suggested donations for this fund raiser are \$5/quart or \$3/pint and \$2/dozen cookies. Feel free to give whatever amount you'd like.

Please see Lesley Thompson for an order form.



COLLEGE STUDENTS

Chipman Crew will shortly be sending out a gift certificate to college students....**Please update your college student's mailing address**..... Please give or send your college student's address to either Lesley (lesley@cpnorthcountry.org) or Mindy (fisher@potdam.edu)

We want to be sure we have the most recent mailing address as college students do move from year to year!! Chipman Crew will shortly be sending out a gift certificate to college students. We will happy to accept monetary donations to help defray the cost of this mission.

Our students appreciate hearing from home and receiving a reminder that they are in our prayers as they complete these years at college.

Please give your donation to Lesley Thompson or Mindy Fisher if you would like to support this effort. Many thanks from Chipman Crew and Mission Committee

~ Chipman Crew

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

The Mission Committee is preparing for a special offering -
One Great Hour Of Sharing
February 18 through April 1 (Easter)

In Isaiah 58, God issued a call and a challenge-to love one another more deeply by sharing what we have with those in need. One Great Hour Of Sharing is our congregations direct response to the ways in which God has called us to share. This Lenten season, please give generously! Your gift can make a difference!! You can fulfill a need, change a life, and foster hope and faith.

A Prayer:

Generous God, you have given us the riches of grace without measure. In response we have offered a portion of what we have. For all the ways you have used our gifts, we give you thanks and praise. Bless all of those who benefit from these good works. In Christ, you have made us one. Help us to remember those who still hunger and thirst, those still in search of refuge and opportunity, those still awaiting your justice and peace.

Guide us in this compassionate work, which is to be our way of life. Amen.

~ Ephesians 2