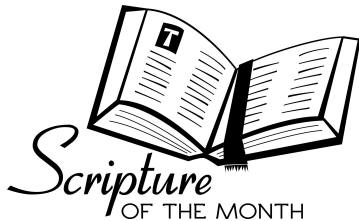


PASTOR'S PAGE

"THE POWER OF COMMUNITY"**Baptism of our Lord**

January 07, 2024

Mark 1: 4-11

"Baptized to Baptize"

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2024

John 1: 43-51

"Called to Call"

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

Mark 1: 14-20

"Proclaimed to Proclaim"

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Mark 1: 21-28

"Freed to Free"

A man, who regularly attended Community meetings suddenly without any notice stopped participating. After a few weeks, one very cold night the leader of that Group decided to visit him. He found the man at home, alone, sitting in front of a fireplace where a bright fire burned. The man welcomed the Leader. There was a great silence. The two Men only watched the dancing flames around the logs that crackled in the fireplace. After a few minutes the Leader, without saying a word, examined the woods that formed the fire and selected one of them, glowing most brightly of all, removing it to the side with a pair of tongs. Then he sat down again. The host was paying attention to everything, fascinated. Before long, the lone Member flame subsided, until there was only a momentary glow & the fire soon went out. In a short time what was previously bright light and heat had become nothing more than a black & dead piece of wood. Very few words had been spoken since the greeting. Before preparing to leave, the leader with the tongs picked up the useless piece of wood & placed it again in the middle of the fire. Immediately, the member piece of wood was rekindled, fueled by the light & heat of the burning coals around him. When the leader reached the door to leave, the host said: Thank you for your visit and for your beautiful lesson. I'll return to the group soon. Why is a Group important? Very simple: Because each member that withdraws takes fire & heat from the rest. It's worth reminding group members that they are a part of the flame. It's also good to remind us that we are all responsible for keeping each other's flame burning. And we must promote the union among us so that the fire is really strong, effective, and lasting. The group is a family. It doesn't matter if sometimes we are bothered by so many messages, quarrels, misunderstandings, etc. What matters is to be connected. We are here to meet, learn, exchange ideas, or simply to know that we are not alone. Let's keep the flame Alive. Life is Beautiful when we lift one another!*

Pastor Hal

Pastor Hal A. Schroetter

January 2024

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Hal:715-828-1112

Email: harkihear@gmail.com

If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion, or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.

BAPTISM

Eliana Kristine Perkovich

FUNERAL

Vernon "Vernie/Vern Hanson



We resume our weekly Bible Study on January 08, 2024-7:00 p.m. at Big Elk Creek. We continue our "Enter the Bible" program.

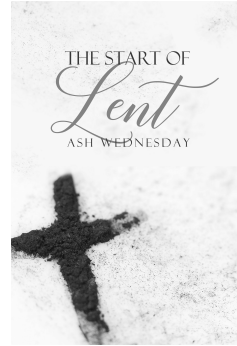


Confirmation resumes on Wednesday January 10, 2024. We meet 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Big Elk Creek.



save the date

ANNUAL MEETINGS February 04, 2024



Early Preview

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Services on February 14, 2024 Big Elk Creek 7:00 p.m.

Soup Suppers will again be served on the five Mid-Week Services. Videos by Artist Paul Oman will again be the focus of these Wednesday under the theme "Miracles of Jesus". Plan to support, provide and attend.



Epiphany beckons us to come to the light of Jesus Christ. Epiphany calls us to stare into that light until our inner darkness is fully expunged. Epiphany then sends us out into a dark and weary world as women and men with shining faces, until we say with the apostle Paul, "It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" [see 2 Corinthians 4:6].

—Jason Gaboury, campus minister in New York City

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2024*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2024*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 7, 2024*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 15, 2024*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25, 2024*
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