



Adult Sunday School 9am ✝️ Worship 10am ✝️ Fellowship 11am

117 N. 3rd Ave. | PO Box 1 | Kure Beach, NC 28449

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JANUARY 2019 – NEWSLETTER

Volume 20, No. 37



***Our Mission Statement** – As joyful followers of Jesus Christ, we welcome and care for all people. We boldly proclaim the Good News, share our faith, and love God by serving others.*

***Our Statement of Welcome** – Accepting those who Christ has already accepted, Kure Memorial Lutheran Church affirms that all people, regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation, or economic status, are unconditionally welcome to our community of faith and are invited to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.*

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’” (Matthew 2:1-2)



Epiphany. The word “Epiphany” means, “to be made known”. It is celebrated every year on January 6, followed by the Season of Epiphany that takes us up to the Sunday of the Transfiguration, which this year is February 26. The day of Epiphany is the day that we celebrate the Magi (or Wise Men) traveling from the east to seek out and worship Jesus, the newborn King! We really don’t know much about them. We don’t know where they were from, although historically Magi were Persian astrologers, which explains their identifying and following “his star” (vs 2).

Before I go any farther...I would like to offer my favorite “Epiphany trivia question”! Are you ready? Okay...here it goes: How many Magi were there? Please take a moment or two to think about it! You will find the answer on the bottom of page 3 of the newsletter!

Anyway...back to the point at hand. What strikes me about these Magi is that they traveled a great distance seeking out Jesus to worship him. They knew Jesus was the one who “has been born king of the Jews.” They knew this was the one who was worthy of worship and reverence. And they went to great lengths...and great distances to seek him out!

Which makes me wonder: As we navigate through all the things going on in our lives that pull us in so many different directions...those things that vie for our attention and make our lives overwhelmingly busy and cluttered...How is it that we seek out Jesus for the healing we need? For the direction in life we are looking for? For the peace we need in the midst of our own times of chaos? For those times of worship to thank him for all he has done and continues to do in our lives? To what extent will we go to seek him out to affirm how he is working in our lives?

Seeking out Jesus. Actually, we don’t even have to go very far. Because he promises to always be with us. We only need to open our hearts and our lives to allow him to work in us and to bring us the peace and care we need. And we only need to lift up our voices in praise and thanksgiving for all he does in our lives...wherever we happen to be at the moment!

Have a joyous season of Epiphany, as each week we will hear and experience Jesus “being made known” in the world!

Surfin’ on God’s Grace!

Pastor Dan

Youth Ministries:

We kick youth group back up on Sunday, January 6 from 11:30-1:00! We will start the year off by having discussions during the month of January on how we can lead better lives as followers of Christ! One of our discussions will include being a good example to our friends. I think a great way to be a good example of a Christian is by inviting Friends on our outings when we serve our community, and speaking of serving our community.... We are also going to be more intentional about doing that this year!! This will include being involved in the Sunday lunch ministry, and volunteering at various local homeless shelters. Serving and working together locally will really help us grow as a youth group, and will also help us to get to know each other's strengths! This will be so beneficial for us when we travel to serve on bigger missions trips (both out of the state and/or out of the country)!!

Family Ministries:

Thank you to all the parents that brought their children to our Advent Christmas celebration at the begging of the December! It was so fun playing games, making an Advent wreath craft and decorating Christmas cookies!! Check out the photos in the fellowship hall on the bulletin board as well as the photos below of all the Christmas themed fun we had!!

Pastor Dan and I would like to kick off our 2-5 grade ministries event on Saturday, February 9 from 10:30-12:00 in the fellowship hall! We want this ministry to be a fun time of faith based games, activities, crafts and discussions for kids of KMLC and kids of our community, and we would like to do this once every month! Keep your eye out for an announcement in the bulletin, as well as a reminder email from me, and be checking the KMLC Children's ministry Facebook page! For the first meeting, we would like parents to stay to meet with Pastor Dan to discuss what day and time of the month works best for all the families, while the kids and I have fun!

Erica

Please join our facebook groups!!!

KMLC Youth Group Facebook Group Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/50299013976/>

KMLC Children's Ministry Group Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/422595784747944/>



Advent/ Christmas Family Event





We are blessed and honored to have a visit from our Bishop, Tim Smith on Sunday, January 27! Bishop Tim will be in Kure Beach to worship with us and to fellowship with us that Sunday! He will share the message and preside for Holy Communion that day. *Make sure you are here that day for this exciting event because we want him to meet and get to know our tremendous, energetic and joyful family of faith who has a passion for our community and our world...and for you all to meet him and have conversation with him!* We will have a POTLUCK LUNCHEON following worship...of course you don't want to miss that!! This will be an awesome time as we have not had a visit from a bishop since 2001! Looking forward to seeing you here! More information will be coming your way as time gets closer!

NEWS BITES

A Huge THANK YOU from Pastor Dan and Chris: THANK YOU so much for the very generous Christmas gift we received from this amazing congregation on Christmas Eve! We really appreciate all of you and your thoughtfulness and generosity! Both Chris and I and our family are so blessed to be a part of such a warm, loving and energetic faith community! You are all amazing!

Church "Undecorating" is scheduled for Sunday, January 6. That morning in worship, we will celebrate the Day of Epiphany, when the wise men arrived to see Jesus, Mary and Pilate. Then following worship, we invite you to please join us as we put away the decorations and enter the season of Epiphany! If you can spend some time helping to take down and pack everything up and put it away, that would be super! Thanks so much!

January Men's Breakfast: Come join us on Saturday, January 26 at 8:30am for a great breakfast, fun conversation and a meaningful devotion! Pastor Dan will be there at 7:30am to start cooking! So if you have something you want to bring or anything you want to contribute...please contact Pr. Dan! We would love to have you come early to help or have coffee and visit! See you on the 26th!

We still have Attractions Books for sale! If you haven't already purchased yours, here is your chance!! Attractions Books are still for sale for \$25 per book, of which Kure Memorial gets \$10 of that! All proceeds will go toward our next trip to Costa Rica in 2020! Please see Pastor Dan after worship or give him a call at 910-619-8979 to get your copy(ies)! You can also stop by the church office to get them! Thank you for your support!

Annual Meeting...Part 2! Will be held on January 20, immediately following worship. At this meeting we will be approving the annual reports.

After a couple weeks off for Christmas and New Year's, our Children's Sunday school continues every Sunday following the Children's Time. The children hear the Bible story in a way they can understand and discuss it in terms that relate to their lives. They also engage in games, activities and projects that help them relate to the story. Pass the word. We would love to share that ministry with others! If any of you would like to assist or teach, let Pr. Dan know! We will not have Children's Sunday School on December 24 or December 31!

2019 Polar Plunge Team KMLC! We hope everyone is getting ready for the Polar Plunge 2019 which will take place on Saturday, February 23! The Polar Plunge is the major annual fundraising event for Special Olympics New Hanover County! This year it will again be held in Kure Beach at the Ocean Front Park near the Kure Beach pier. Last year we had 60 plus people join our team and it was a great time! How close can we get to that record? We won the award for having the largest team! Our team will take part in the 1 mile fun walk...or if you are more energetic(!) you can do the 5K...or you can do the plunge if you want (brrrr!)? The KMLC Polar Plunge Team is once again made possible through a \$1000 contribution to the Special Olympics New Hanover County, in memory of Melanie Wetzel, daughter of Becky and Tom Wetzel. Melanie worked with students with autism and this is a great way to honor Melanie. ***This year, we are inviting anyone in the congregation to donate part or all of the typical fee of participating back to that same memorial fund, which is \$30 for those doing the "1 mile fun walk/run or 5K" or \$50 for those doing the "plunge and walk/run". That way we will be able to have a team in Melanie's memory for more years to come! (Please make your check out to KMLC and write "Polar Plunge" in the memo line!)* Also, again this year we will have a "Team Feed" on Friday evening, February 22! It is a great time to get together before the event and have a chance to socialize! Please contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in joining the KMLC Team! So...come on out and join the fun! It is always a very festive occasion! Plus...you will receive a Polar Plunge t-shirt! Can't beat that! Pastor Dan will need your name and t-shirt size by January 27!

Church Women United: All women are invited to attend their **"Annual Meeting" on Friday, January 4th** at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 2929 Princess Place, Wilmington. Registration and Coffee begins at 9:30am with the meeting at 10:00am. For more information contact Barbara Vought at 910-458-4636. For more information about CWU, visit their website at <http://www.cwunc.org/> Church Women United is an ecumenical movement that brings together Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian women in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Friday Morning Book Group -We meet **Friday mornings at 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at bagel Meister in Carolina Beach.** For the month of January we are reading beautiful boy by David Sheff. But looking ahead, we will be reading The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch for the month of February. Any questions contact Becky Wetzel at 571-230-6289.

Women's Bible Study and Outreach Group: We will meet on **Tuesday January 8th at 9:30am** in the church library. **We are still selling "Lenten Soup Supper Recipe Books" for \$3.00 each!** The Women's Bible Study and Outreach group would like to thank everyone who bought a cookbook. We are giving \$100.00 to the Sunday Lunch Ministry and using some of the other proceeds to help the needy.

Sunday Lunch: Join us in this weekly ministry! Give a hand with sandwich preparations during fellowship hour. Join us as we share the lunches with our neighbors in the Carolina Beach area. Help us "behind the scenes" by shopping or setting up on Sunday morning before service. Contact Jean Graff-309-339-9272-call, text, email kjeb415@charter.net, or just talk with me at church!

If you have placed someone on the Friends and Family prayer list and you would like them to receive a note of encouragement from the members of Kure Memorial, make sure we have that person's address. You can email Mina Piedmont at cbncgranny@charter.net or call her at 458-9337.

Reminder about our staffed nursery: Do you know any families with children through age 2, who would love to come to worship here at Kure Memorial, but are hesitant because they have young children and would like a safe place for them to play when they get a little active during worship? Or maybe parents who are slowly trying to introduce their children to experiencing our worship experience? Please invite them to join us on Sunday mornings and let them know that we now have a staffed nursery, for families just like them! Their children can spend as little or as much time in the nursery as they need to. We love to have all of our family members worshiping with us, but sometimes that may not be possible. The nursery is located in the south preschool room. Chandler Von Cannon and Erica Little are our nursery staff, along with a youth helper who will assist as needed.

Kure Memorial Facebook Page: Make sure you check out our Facebook page and "like" us to stay up to date with what is going on here at Kure Memorial! With our new Facebook page we will be posting upcoming events and have updates on mission trips, beach services, etc. as well as highlights of past events! We look forward to keeping you connected! Eventually we even plan to video our worship services live on "Facebook Live"! This way, your family and friends from around the world can tune in and join us for worship at 10am on Sunday mornings! Stay tuned for more information. Check us out: <https://www.facebook.com/Kure-Memorial-Lutheran-Church-113882918643415/>

Don't forget to check out our website: kmlc.org! It has been refreshed, revised and renewed and will continue to be updated! It is looking great, with information about our ministries, photos, directions on how to get here...all kinds of things. Eventually, there will be lots of photos and other information to share with you! Please check it out and make it your homepage!!

Synod E-News: The North Carolina Synod sends out a weekly "e-news", via email to keep us up to date on things going on with the Lutheran church throughout the state! It is very informative and you will see several things you can get involved in at the synod level! To subscribe to the weekly "e-news", go to the synod homepage: www.nclutheran.org. Go to the bottom right corner of the page where it says: "Subscribe to our synod e-newsletters" and click where it says: "Click to Join" and put in your name and email address. It's pretty simple! The synod website also has many resources for adults, teens and families. Please check out: <http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/library/library-by-category-col-150/library-category-bible-story> for online devotions for a variety of uses!

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES – DECEMBER 2018 - At the December church council meeting, the following actions and discussions took place:

- ❖ Welcomed new church council member Steve Shuttleworth.
- ❖ Gave thanks for congregational acceptance of 2019 mission plan.
- ❖ Congregational meeting, part 2, will be held after church service on January 20.
- ❖ 2018 end-of-year reports are due to Beth White by December 31.
- ❖ Continued discussion of plans for repairs and renovations to church facilities.
- ❖ Further discussion of hurricane relief for members and others.
- ❖ Continued planning for N.C. Synod Bishop Tim Smith's visit scheduled for January 26-27.
- ❖ Planned for participation in 2019 Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 23.
- ❖ Decided that Midweek Advent donations will go Bill Harris VBS Fund.
- ❖ Next council meeting will be held on Monday, January 14 at 6:30.

VOLUNTEERING

Discipleship Committee: The Discipleship Team has been very busy lately, determining our goals for 2019 and putting together our ministry plan for next year. We hope to have at least one activity each month that will bring us together socially and also provide opportunities to grow in the knowledge, understanding, and support of each other as the Body of Christ.

One of our goals for this year is to become a **Creation Care Congregation**. It is a program of identification with the goals and mission of Lutherans Restoring Creation. It is a commitment program. That is, we are invited to put together a mission statement for our congregation and then carry it out as well as we can. We will be responsible only to ourselves and to the Earth community for what we do and how we do it. Over the next few months we will be sharing information about the program and asking for interested volunteers to help get the program started. We already do many things that are part of the program and hope to develop a plan to do even more. This program will count and celebrate everything we have already done, provide some structure to our efforts, and enable us to act in solidarity with other Lutheran congregations. Stay tuned for more next month!

Help Center needs for January: canned meat, cereal, pasta sauce, beans (canned pork and beans type, NOT string beans) and any other canned or packaged food items and toiletries are deeply appreciated. Sanctuary doors are open daily, 8am to 8pm. If you have some time to give and can assist our friends here, contact Becky Wetzel at 571-230-6289.

January Worship Assistants

Date	Assisting Ministers	Readers	Acolytes	Ushers
January 6	Tammy Ebersole	Kristin Woodie	Nicholas Schwenker	Bill & Deb Buckley
January 13	Keith Graff	Isabell Foushee	Emerson Shuttleworth	Janice Hindle & Sydney Roy
January 20	Mia Shoffner	Tammy Ebersole	Colby Shoffner	Tom & Becky Wetzel
January 27	Sydney Maguire	Keith Graff	Mary Katherine Maguire	Richard & Rhonda Geisel

Sanctuary Flowers: To sponsor Sanctuary Flowers, select your Sunday date and occasion and sign up in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for the floral arrangement is \$25. Your celebration will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin and the flowers are displayed in the sanctuary. Your occasion is celebrated by all and, the arrangement is yours to take home to enjoy after service! For more information, please contact Suzan Katko at 724-309-7973.

January 6– available
January 13 – available
January 20 – available
January 27– available

Fellowship Hosts: Thanks to all of you who continue to make this time together so enjoyable. Many of us enjoy sharing time and conversation during Fellowship, and don't stop to think about who does the setting up, or cleaning up or brings the food we love to eat. We encourage you to consider helping by bringing in a snack to share. Staying around to help with the cleaning up or coming early to help with the setting up is always appreciated also. If you would like to help, you can sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

January 6– Becky Wetzel

January 13– Birthday Sunday

January 20– Pat & Mel Jones

January 27– John & MJ Shalanski

Sanctuary Lamp: Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually, signifying the unswerving presence of the spirit of the Lord in our hearts and in our lives. To sponsor the sanctuary lamp, choose your Sunday date and the loved one or occasion you wish to honor and sign up in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of sponsorship is \$5; an acknowledgement will be made in the Sunday Bulletin.

January 6– available

January 13– available

January 20– available

January 27– available

From our Financial Secretary:

1. Thanks to everyone for their generosity during December. While the December and year-end reports are not yet ready, we know that December's contributions, as well as the Tithes and Offerings for 2018 surpassed what was needed to support our Mission Plan. You will receive a detailed report at Part Two of our Congregation Meeting, on January 20th.
2. Individual contribution statements for 2018 will be sent out by the end of January. These statements will include tithes and offerings as well as contributions for special programs such as Vacation Bible School or the Costa Rica Mission trip.
3. Boxes of Envelopes for 2019 Tithes and Offerings have been distributed. If you have not yet received your box of envelopes, please check in the back of the Narthex or contact Terry Hambel.
4. It is not too late to hand in your Estimate of Giving for 2019 Ministry Support. Simply place it in the collection plate when the ushers pass your way.

Community News:

It's almost Income Tax time. Certified tax preparers will be available at the Senior Resource Center on Shipyard and at the Carolina Beach Senior Center. First date for tax returns is February 1st. Remember this year, you will need to bring your Social Security card - because Medicare cards no longer have your Social Security number. This year the Senior centers will not be able to assist residents who experienced catastrophic loss due to Hurricane Florence, in their income tax preparation. The IRS has deemed catastrophic loss as out of their scope and recommend that such residents seek the services of a professional preparer, such as a CPA. Contact Terry Hambel if you have further questions.

✝ REMEMBER IN PRAYER ✝

HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED, SPECIAL CONCERNS

Megan Manley, Kim Workmeister, Christina Keller, Barbara Stuart, Teri Massey, Pastor Tom Schutt, Anne Burkauskas, Amanda Dimauro, Dani Cape, Cameron Rowe, Cathy Heglar, Terry O'Brien, Cat Morgan, Nancy Baker, Ellen Prevatte, Ted Prevatte, Sharon Efird, Michael Hawk, Maxine Jordan, Lisa Lee, Barry Nelder, Emily Barber, Nancy Spaller, Judy Kunf, Bob Stuart, Mina Piedmont, Betty Swann, John Matthews, Matt Stultz, Larry & Jeanie Reis, Joanne Adams, Olivia, Mike Robertson, Harold Heglar, Tom Paredes, Todd Vought, Antoinette Davis, Gary Cox, John Griffin, Dennis Ebersole.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Sandy Hunt and Ginny Blauboer (Buckley), Tracy McKay, Tom Grady, Pat Hankin (Hambel), Faye Babbs (Kure), Paul Piedmont (Piedmont), Todd Semmler (Semmler), Kristi Johnson, Cyndie Heath, Jami Harris, Jac Schlagle, Lexi Westfall (Hitchcock), Senka Gambino, Jean Behanna, Rick & Sharon Ellis (Lundy), Claire Houston, Tammy V., Becky & Jules Traut, Dave Stultz, Emma Cairns, Jean (Keck), Terry Ford, Carl Ford, (Rehder), Jim Marshall, Family of Katey Boudrot (Bellin), Arlo Bond (Jordan), Joey (Palamara), Pat Addington (Hearne), Julian, Jason & baby Jackson (Full), Mary Adobato (Vecchio), Danny Morrison and Rose Craven (Alphin), Megan Manley (Cox), Beverly Lynn (Kure), Lori Buchhop (Semmler), Richard White (Prevatte), Arden Buckley and Erin O'Brien (Buckley), Brad Cook and Hugh Brady (Shearin), Kari Craig (Palamara), Bridges family (Lundy), Larry Gilbert (Wrenn), Kat Pycior (Stephanos).

Please pray for the caregivers as they care for those who are ill.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MISSIONS OF OUR CHURCH

Federal Point Help Center / Coupons to Service men's families / KMLC Preschool / Girl Scout Troops #867 #901 and #1535 / Good Shepherd (food & supplies) / Trinity Grove / KMLC Youth Group / The Lutheran Church of Costa Rica / Casa Abierta-La Carpio / Seamen's Center.

STUDENTS ATTENDING COLLEGE / SEMINARY

Emily Graff-Luther Seminary / Tommie Ullring-CFCC / Katelyn Copenhaver-Santa Fe College / Jade Denne-NC State / Jordan Pivik-ECU

MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING

Maj. Wayne Lett in Ft. Huachuca, AZ; John Brandon in Wayton, Utah; Steven Blum at Fort Bragg; Christopher Bennett at Great Lakes Naval Base

COSTA RICA MICRO LOAN RECIPIENTS

Rosa Marin, Aida Marin, Raquel Marin: Village of Guatuso, Zaida Hernandez: Village of Quitirrisi, Zoraida Hernandez, Raul Perez: Village of Quitirrisi.

KMLC STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Dan Keck
Council President:	Susan Shearin
Church Office Manager:	Beth White
Musician & Choir Director:	Kristin Woodie
Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry	Erica Little

COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2018

Susan Shearin, Jack Campbell, Terry Hambel, Dottie Herman, Pat Jones, Eleanor Lundy, Jeanette Nelson, Tom Wetzel and Peter Yandow.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Susan Shearin
Vice President: Tom Wetzel
Secretary: Peter Yandow
Treasurer: Eleanor Lundy
Financial Secretary: Terry Hambel

COMMISSION CHAIRS

Worship - Dottie Herman
Resource - Jeanette Nelson
Nurture - TBA
Service - Minnie Larson
Discipleship - Barbara Vought
Preschool - Celeste Carpenter
Property - John Katko

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Co-Chair - Kristin Woodie
Peter Yandow
Pat Jones
Susan Shearin
Susan Shearin
Eleanor Lundy



Decorating for Christmas



First Sunday of Advent



Presentation of the Cross



Preschool Christmas Program

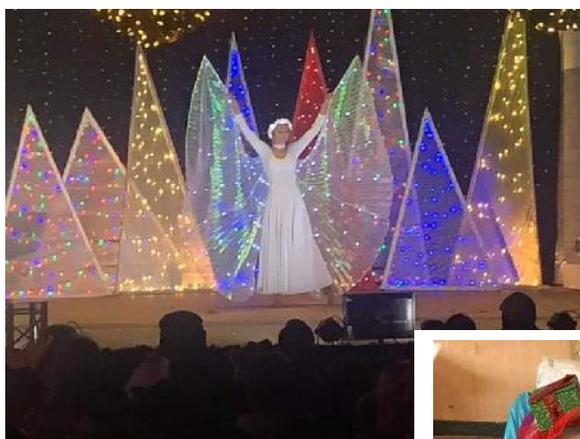
(Click links below to see videos!)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/DfUCjQpaiZKfs31g7>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Qt8zvNtTJReLKf148>



Familiar faces at KB Christmas Show!



Christmas Eve

(Click links below to see videos!)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9PDzrLQwMGf2px8M8>

