



St. John's Lutheran Church

47 McLachlin Street, Arnprior, Ontario K7S 2Z1

Pastor: Norine Gullons

Church Office: 623-4562

Pastor's office hours are Tues., Wed., Thurs., 9:00-Noon

Chairperson:	Randy Zimmerling	623-9733
	Jeff Kargus	623-0192
	Lorne Rueckwald	623-8905
	Beryl Richardson	623-4351
	Lois Rosien	623-3010
	Ryan Zimmerling	623-5939
	Rhonda McTeer	623-0328
	Melissa Watt	432-9305

Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself...

Norman Wesley Brooks

January Calendar

Sunday	4th	Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00am Epiphany Sunday
Wednesday	7 th	Worship at The Villa 10:30am Arnprior Ministerial meets at noon
Thursday	8 th	Ottawa Valley Lutheran Pastors area meeting 9:30am St. Timothy's , Pembroke
Sunday	11th	Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00am "Baptism of Our Lord Sunday"
Monday	12 th	Council Meeting at 7:30pm
Sunday	18th	Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00am
Wednesday	21 st	Worship at The Grove 11:00am
Sunday	25th	Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00am Potluck lunch and Annual Meeting



There is coffee, treats and social time every Sunday after service.
Hope to see you there!



Dear Faith Family,

Happy New Year !

Even though we will have celebrated Epiphany by the time you read this newsletter, it is important that we retell the story of the wise men who worshiped the baby Jesus and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

We gather together on Sunday mornings to worship. We gather to be nourished spiritually with music and song, to hear the reading of the scriptures, to pray, to hear the Pastors weekly message and to receive the gift of grace in Holy Communion. Then we also gather for a cup of coffee (or tea) and we listen and support each other. St. John's is blessed with talented people who offer their gifts of time, talents, and financial resources. The most important fact is that we continue to gather together.

Thank you for supporting the ministries of your church during 2014. Whether you gave of your time and talent or financially supported your church in its mission for others, we appreciate your generosity. We are encouraged to live with hope as well as share with others the hope that is within us. Christmas isn't just a season - it is a way of life.

We hope you will be able to participate in the events happening at St. John's in 2015. We hope to realize God's activity to come among us in grace, mercy and love that the light might continue shining on in even the darkest of places. May God bless our ministries in the New Year.

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

Sincerely, Pastor Norine



We wish to thank the following people for their donation to the Christmas Flower Fund:

Stella Boese, Andy Kalnins, John and Dorothy Homer, Randy and Cathy Zimmerling, Jeff and Debbie Kargus, Gerald and Barb Formuziewich, Bill and Marion Koops, Henry and Lois Rosien, Greg and Debbie Steinke, Rhonda McTeer, and Morris and Sandra Hall.

Thank you for your support.
Beryl, Keith and Dorothy



December Church Council Report

As the year draws to a close and we take a good look at the challenges facing us in the New Year, it is also appropriate that we take some time to reflect on our successes over the last year.

To focus on a few:

- ❖ with one voice we called Pastor Norine to full time ministry at St. John's and she joined us in early July
- ❖ our annual neighbourhood barbecue continued to draw a good representation from the area
- ❖ we have several young families attending on a regular basis who are also taking part in assisting at worship and serving on council
- ❖ both our weekly attendance and our Sunday offerings have exceeded what we had anticipated in the 1st year of our return to full time ministry (attendance has risen from 25 to 40+ people; current monthly offering has grown by 33+% vs. previous year)
- ❖ this year's Christmas eve service had 90 people in attendance; up 25% from last year

We have completed several maintenance projects around the church:

- ✓ much needed office painting; upgrades to office plugs and lights
- ✓ foundation parging and mortar maintenance to the outside of the building
- ✓ painting of the upper and lower storm windows and back entrance door

Our support for others beyond the four walls of the building was evident as we rallied to support special CLWR appeals and through the Food Bank, sponsored a needy family for Christmas.

We had 3 new members join us on church council this year and even though we know he will be around to help us when needed, we are sadly saying goodbye to Lorne Rueckwald as a council member. His dedication and hard work over the past years were important factors in keeping things going here at St. John's.

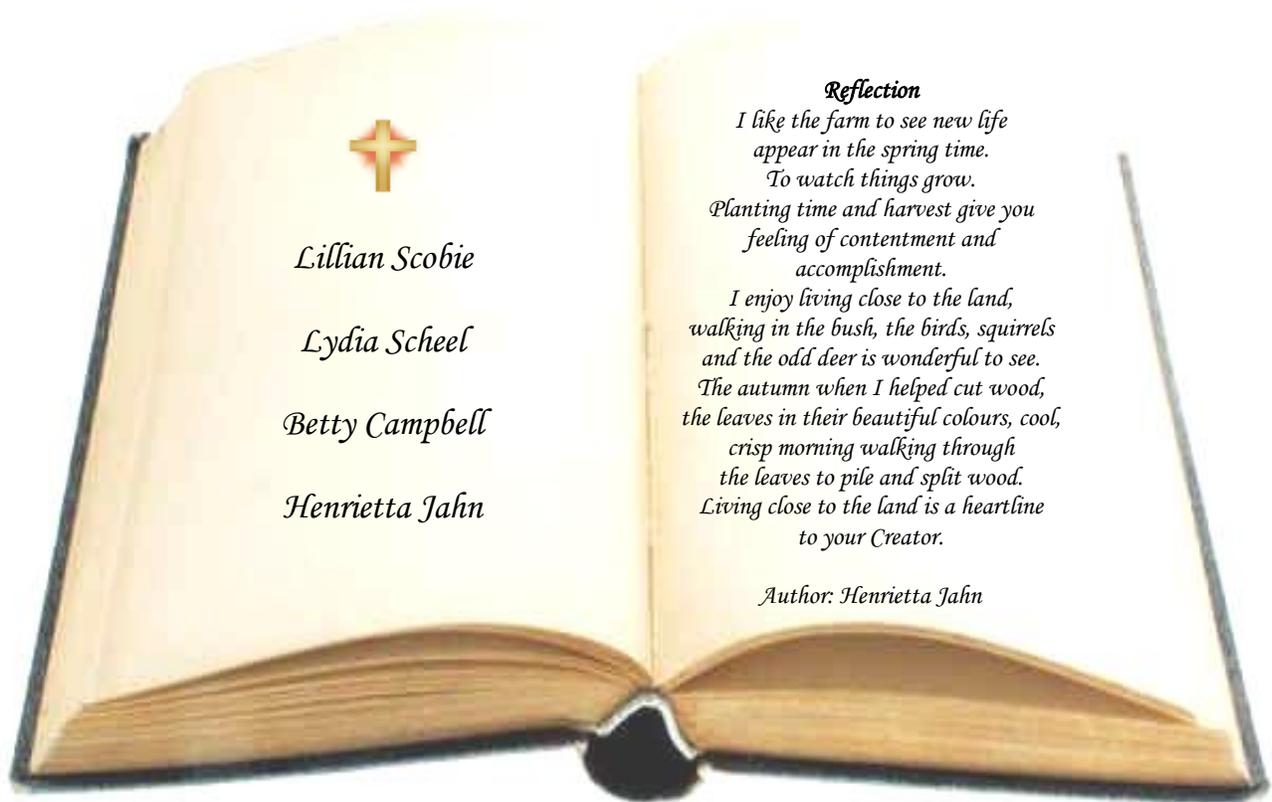
There is no question we have a host of challenges facing us in 2015:

- continuing to grow our active membership
- building maintenance and improved accessibility
- continuing to grow our presence in the community

I am thankful for Pastor Norine's leadership, church council's commitment and the support we have received from all members of our congregation. I look forward to working with all of you in 2015.

Randy.

In loving memory of those God called Home in 2014



Lillian Scobie

Lydia Scheel

Betty Campbell

Henrietta Jahn

Reflection

*I like the farm to see new life
appear in the spring time.*

To watch things grow.

*Planting time and harvest give you
feeling of contentment and
accomplishment.*

*I enjoy living close to the land,
walking in the bush, the birds, squirrels
and the odd deer is wonderful to see.*

*The autumn when I helped cut wood,
the leaves in their beautiful colours, cool,
crisp morning walking through
the leaves to pile and split wood.*

*Living close to the land is a heartline
to your Creator.*

Author: Henrietta Jahn



Hope for our Community – Our “Angel Tree”

This year we sponsored a local family of three through The Arnprior and District Food Bank. Our goal was to provide the family with meals for Christmas Day including everything they needed to make a Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings. We also hoped to provide some gift items.

Thanks to the support and generosity of our congregation we were able to exceed our goals. Along with food donations, there were also cash donations totaling \$152.00. We used \$102.00 to buy the remaining food items and purchased a \$50.00 No Frills gift card for our sponsored family. In addition to the food, our sponsored family received every item on their Christmas wish list and more.

Our angels truly had wings as they “flew” off the tree.

Jeff and Debbie



Arnprior and District Food Bank Inc.

All donations are extremely appreciated by the Food Bank. Some items that have a high demand and tend to run out quickly are:

- Ketchup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Canned ham, chicken and salmon, Cheez Whiz, Shampoo, Bar Soap, Toothpaste, Sugar, Instant Coffee, Campbell's Chunky Soups, Side Kicks, Cereal

The Food Bank also accepts gently used winter outer wear such as coats, snowsuits, boots, mittens, hats, etc. for all ages.



What is Gifts from the Heart?

Gift purchases make a difference in the lives of people in need. They help communities grow more food, improve health, increase opportunities for education and protect creation!

Our congregational focus in January and February will shift internationally as we support CLWR's efforts through the "Gifts From the Heart" catalogue you received in December.

Postings in the Narthex

- Eastern Synod Lutheran Monthly Newsletter (or access online at: <http://www.easternsynod.org/>)
To print your own copy of the Synod Newsletter go to the website above and follow these steps:
Select **Spreading the Word** → **Publications** → **TESL** → Select the month you want

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	USHERS	READING	COFFEE/SOCIAL	COUNTERS
Jan. 4 th	Keith and Beryl Richardson	Joy Statham	Lois Rosien	Keith and Beryl Richardson
Jan. 11 th	Keith and Beryl Richardson	Debbie Kargus	Debbie Kargus	Keith and Beryl Richardson
Jan. 18 th	Keith and Beryl Richardson	Maureen Rueckwald	Pastor Norine	Keith and Beryl Richardson
Jan. 25 th	Keith and Beryl Richardson	Andy Kalnins	Annual Meeting Pot Luck	Keith and Beryl Richardson

Thank you volunteers! If you would like to help out, please sign-up in the Narthex!

Website: <http://stjohnsarnprior.com>



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Johns-Lutheran-Church-Arnprior/302930049856065>