

## February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 ANNOUNCEMENTS for the East Kootenay Lutheran Parish

EKLP serves the communities of Cranbrook, at Mt. Zion Lutheran;  
Elkford, at Immanuel Lutheran; Fernie; and Kimberley.

**We are CARED FOR AND CARING IN JESUS' NAME.**

*You can contact our Parish office at 250-426-7564*

*Or e-mail [mtzionlc@hotmail.com](mailto:mtzionlc@hotmail.com)*

**EKLP(MZ)Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 9:00am – 1:00pm**

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at [www.eklutheran.ca](http://www.eklutheran.ca)**

Also find us on: Facebook at "East Kootenay Lutherans"

YouTube at "East Kootenay Lutheran Parish-AFLC"

**Pastor Joshua's EKLP Email is: [Jmahmt@shaw.ca](mailto:Jmahmt@shaw.ca)**

**Cell #: 250-464-0387**

### **Services**



**Praise God!**

**We are holding Sunday services at Mt Zion (Cranbrook) at 10:00 am; and at Immanuel (Elkford) at 3:00 pm.**

**Please Note:** *Our face-to-face worship services at Trinity (Fernie) are on hold until further notice. Please join with either our Cranbrook or our Elkford congregations. Please visit our website [www.eklutheran.ca](http://www.eklutheran.ca) for updates on all our locations & inspirational resources.*

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EKLP AGM:** We will be hosting our AGM this year on Sat. Mar 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am at Mt Zion in Cranbrook. All members of the parish are invited to attend. Please consider how you might be able to assist our parish council with your talents. 😊



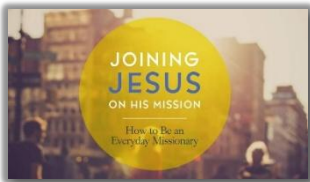
**Lutheranism 101 Online Study:** Every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

**If you want to participate in this study, please contact Pastor Josh Mah at Jmahmt@shaw.ca or call 250-464-0387**

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## MT. ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **In February Mt. Zion will be holding two Communion Services:** February 9<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup> both at 10:00 am.
- **Congregation Meeting After Service February 16<sup>th</sup>.** **If anyone is interested in serving on Mt. Zion council please let us know. *This meeting is important to all members in the functioning of Mt. Zion's Congregation***
- **Pot Luck after Service on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.** See Sharon Fantuz for details.



- **Bible Study:** Joining Jesus on His mission Starting on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

- **Hot Dog and Food Bank**

**Sunday to be held on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

- Please bring in your non-perishable items or donation for the Cranbrook Food Bank



- **Thursday Prayer Meeting:** Every Thursday at 1:00 pm
- **Mount Zion Leadership Meeting:** February 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.
- **Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup>:** Being held at Mt. Zion 6:00 pm
- **Ash Wednesday Service March 5<sup>th</sup>:** Being held at Mt. Zion at 7:00 pm.

### **Pastor's Schedule**

February 2 – Mt. Zion 10 am Service of Praise

February 2 – IMM No Service

February 9 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Communion Service

February 9 – IMM 3:00 pm Communion Service

February 16 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Service of Praise

February 16 – IMM No Service

February 23 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Communion Service

February 23 – IMM Service of Praise

### **Scripture Readings – Sundays**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> “The Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord”**

1 Samuel 1:21–28, Hebrews 2:14–18

**February 9<sup>th</sup> “Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany”**

Isaiah 6:1–8 (9–13), 1 Corinthians 14:12b–20

**February 16<sup>th</sup> “Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany”**

Jeremiah 17:5–8, 1 Corinthians 15:(1–11) 12–20



**Please pray for:** *Harry N, John and Joanna B, Marge B, Bill & Bruni L, Penny T, Jill S, Joy M, Colleen B, Elke & Peter H, Brenda & John J, Sheilah M, Irene S, Irene K*

## The First Epiphany

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The word "epiphany" means "to manifest" or "to have a significant realization." After Jesus was born in Bethlehem Magi from the East came to worship Him. Their experience teaches us many important things about God and about ourselves.

### Answers to Epiphany

1. We don't know how many there were. Because of the three gifts, many assume there were three. The Magi are mentioned in Daniel 2.12. They were probably from Persia or Arabia.

2-3. Julius Caesar made Herod, an Arabian of noble descent, the King of Judea in B.C. 47. Herod was known for his extravagant building programs and also for murdering anyone, even family members, who threatened his rule. It is no surprise that Herod sent his soldiers to Bethlehem to murder all the boys two years old and younger in his bloody attempt to preserve his authority.

4. Some think the Star of Bethlehem was a unique conjoining of certain celestial bodies. Others think that it was simply a miraculous star created by God for the purpose of leading the Magi to Jerusalem. Most likely the star wasn't unusually bright, because no one else seems to have noticed it. However, astronomers like the Magi apparently detected its movement.

5. Matthew tells us that they were living in a "house" by the time the Magi arrived.

6. The gifts were the "hard currency" of the times. They were very valuable and portable. The gifts would have been very helpful to the Holy Family for their upcoming escape to Egypt. The song, "We Three Kings" suggests that the gifts pointed to Jesus as King, God, and Sacrifice.

7. The most important gift that we bring to God is our faith. But from that faith grows love for others. Like the Magi, we bring our gifts of "hard currency" as well as our time and talents in the service of God's mission of the Gospel and mercy to the world.

8. Sometimes people think they need a miracle like a star or a special voice from the Lord in order to believe. Miracles are real, but they are rare. That's why we call them miracles. Most people who lived during the Bible times never saw a miracle. The generation of Moses saw many miracles. There were miracles in the time of Elijah and Elisha. The disciples of Jesus saw many miracles. But most of the people who lived before, between and after those amazing times never saw a miracle. We, however, do have an amazing miracle that we often take for granted. This is a miracle that neither Moses, nor the Magi, nor even the disciples had - This is the miracle of the New Testament. The Holy Spirit has given this to us. Peter said that this is something even "angels desire to look into" (1 Peter 1.12). The New Testament and the Old Testament bring you the "epiphany" you need to realize who Jesus is, the Son of God and your savior.