

Bedford Lutheran

church with a heart

God's Vision for Us: To celebrate Christ, grow in faith, and share God's Love with all! January 2018

A Message from Pastor Floyd Addison

Dear Friends,

Even though January 1st is actually just another 24-hour day like December 31st, there's something about the beginning of a new year that makes us feel like it's a fresh start. I suppose that's why some people make resolutions about what they're doing to change and do better in the New Year.

The New Year is filled with opportunities and challenges-for us as individuals and for our church. How can we grow in our faith, and if that were to happen, what would be the evidence of that growth? And how can we help our church grow, not just in numbers of worshippers on Sunday but in the challenge of reaching out still farther into our community?

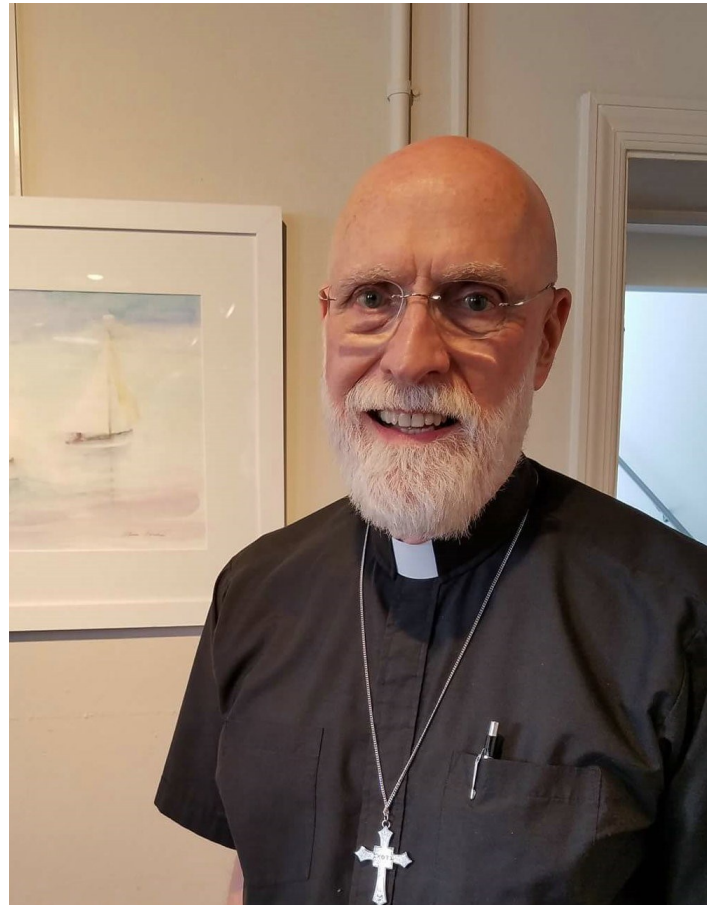
Those are some of the things we need to ask as we take stock of where we are and where we're headed in 2018.

One thing for sure, we have a great deal to be thankful for. I, for one, am thankful for this congregation and its leaders-for their commitment to the ministry that is Bedford Lutheran Church, for their faithful and regular participation in worship, and for their sense of mission that takes the shape of outreach and service.

As we begin a new year we give thanks for what has been and we joyfully face what is to come, trusting that God will continue to bless and keep us, now and always.

Yours, in Christ,

Floyd Addison



Bedford Lutheran Church

Worshiping at the
Bower Center for the Arts
Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
305 North Bridge Street,
Bedford, VA 24523

540-586-3205

Email:

bedfordlutheranva@gmail.com

Website:

www.bedfordlutheranva.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/bedfordlutheran

Interim Pastor

Pastor Floyd Addison

540-774-4165 (home)

540-354-2921 (mobile)

Interims for Visitation

Gary Snyder

540-583-5034 (home)

434-203-9996 (mobile)

Lyn Coppedge

540-425-1110

Pianist

Charlotte Farley

cafarley.writes@gmail.com

Our Mission Partners

St. Michael, Blacksburg
St. Mark, Charlottesville;

St. Paul's, Hampton

Trinity-Keezletown

Holy Trinity, Lynchburg;

Mt. Sidney, Salem;

Hebron, Madison;

Trinity Ecumenical Parish, Moneta;

Trinity, Pulaski;

St. Philip, Roanoke, and St. Peter's, Stafford

VA Synod, ELCA



Thank you!!!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Advent and the Christmas season so very special at Bedford Lutheran Church.

Adult Forum Class

The Adult Forum Class resumes meeting for the new year on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. beginning January 7th. Please contact Fred Duis for more information.

Sunday + 1 Bible Study- Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday + 1 Bible Study resumes meeting on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 8th at the home of Linda Kinzler, 1827 Vista Circle, Bedford unless otherwise posted. The group studies the books of the Bible. All are invited. Please contact Jay Johnson for further information.

Women's Small Group

The Women's Small Group will be taking a break during January and will resume meeting on Sunday, February 4th at 4:00 p.m. at the Snyder house, 1505 Wellington Drive, Bedford VA. Please contact Florayne Snyder at 540-583-5034.

Shepherd's Table-Jan. 31st

Bedford Lutheran Church, as part of our Outreach Program will host, prepare and serve a home cooked meal to those who most need it in our community from 10:00 am –1:30 p.m. at 217 W. Washington Street on Wednesday, January 31st. If you have any questions or want to know more about how you can assist Shepherd's Table on other Wednesday's, please contact Charlotte Duis.

Music Notes from Charlotte Farley

The **Third Sunday Singers** will present special music on **Sunday, January 28th**. Please plan to rehearse at **9:50 a.m.** Gentlemen and ladies, young or seasoned-all who enjoy singing are welcome in this group.

Encouraging Words from the Episcopal Church Devotional Booklet "Forward Day by Day"-submitted by Pastor Hank Boschen

Mark 1:17. *And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."*

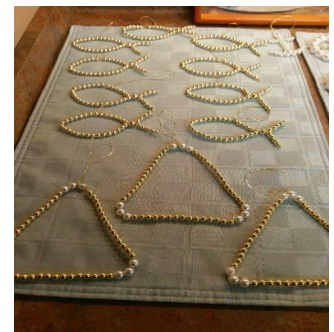
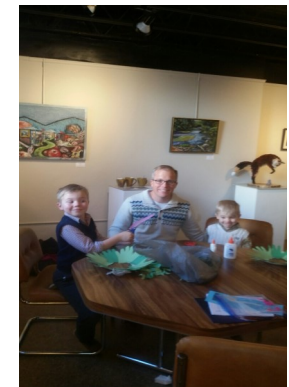
Our congregation had gotten small, really small—like an average Sunday attendance of ten. Everyone wanted new members, so we brainstormed as a group, developed a strategic plan, and got to work. Our plan seemed good, but we weren't seeing any results.

In our lesson from Mark, Jesus is walking along the Sea of Galilee where his friends are working, and as he encounters them, he issues an invitation to join him in his mission. The call is so meaningful, his friends actually leave their work immediately to follow Jesus.

Our members decided if people weren't coming to us, we would go to them. I joined a local service club, members evangelized in supermarkets, work and barbershops. They talked to people at concerts, farmers' markets, and doctors' offices, keeping it simple. We mentioned our church affiliation, and we extended an invitation. No one reacted immediately, but before long, we saw some new faces—and then new faces brought their friends. Our simple plan appears to be working. Some Sundays, forty people come together for worship. We will keep fishing, thanks be to God.

Seasonal Pictures

Pictured below: Advent Wreath Workshop; Chrismons made by the Women's Group; the Women's Group and the Children's Chrismons they made displayed on our beautiful tree this year.



Worship Schedule

	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
Greeters	Bob Hage	Linda Kinzler	Ann Sites	Mike & Vicki Lantrip
Reading	Florayne Snyder	Jay Johnson	Ron Wohlfert	Fred Duis
Ushers	Fred Duis Ron Wohlfert	Darlene Dyess John Dyess	Matthew Farley Robin Wood	Jay Johnson Shela Wolford
Communion	Matthew Farley	Charlotte Duis	Anita Braun	Darlene Dyess
Altar Care	Florayne Snyder Set up-Snyder	Brenda Wohlfert Set up-Wohlfert	Ann Sites Set up-Johnson/Hagerman	Charlotte Duis Set up-Duis

Worship Attendance

- Dec. 3: 32 people; Dec. 10: 23 people; Dec. 17: 32 people; Dec. 24: 32 people; Dec. 24 Evening: 88 people
- Please submit items for the **February** Newsletter to Robin Wood by **Monday Jan.. 22, 2018** or earlier if possible.

Pastoral Needs

Pastor Floyd Addison is serving as Interim Pastor. Please call him at 540-774-4165 (home) or 540-354-2921 (cell) for any needs. For Visitation, please call Gary Snyder at 540-583-5034 (home) or 434-203-9996 (cell) or Lyn Coppedge at 540-425-1110. For prayer requests to be shared with our community through email, please send request to bedfordlutheranva@gmail.com or call Robin Wood.

Bedford Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 508
Bedford, VA 24523