

WISHING YOU A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS

A seasonal special of The Salt Newsletter

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Service

11:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. Worship

1st Sunday after Christmas & In the New Year

Jan. 6 Epiphany Sunday
Sacrament of Holy
Communion

Jan. 14@2p.m. Session

Jan. 16@7:30p.m. Choir
Rehearsal

Jan. 17 @7p.m. Board

Jan. 23@7:30p.m. Choir
Rehearsal

Jan. 27@10a.m. Choir Rehearsal
by Choir
@3p.m. Drew Service

Feb. 10 Annual Meeting



“Light in the Darkness”



Adoration of the Shepherds by the Dutch painter Matthias Stomer, 1632

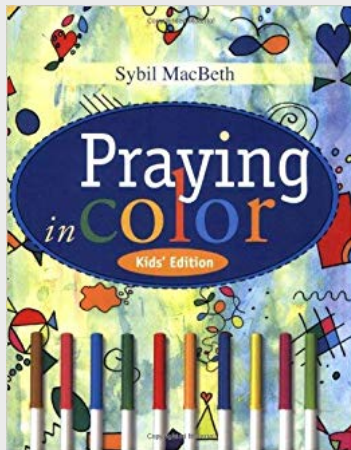
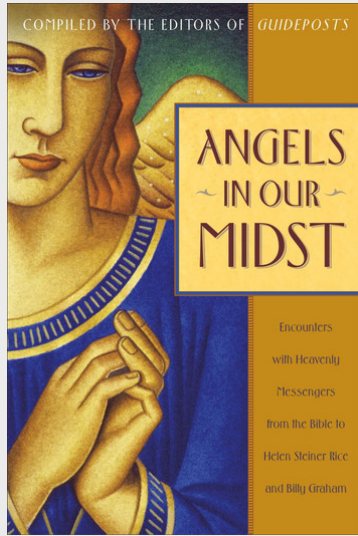
Artists like Leonardo Da Vinci, Caravaggio, Rembrandt, and Stomer were known for their use of such stark contrasts between light and dark in their paintings, which is an art technique called *chiaroscuro* (Italian word for “light and dark”). This method of modelling gives more form to the objects and characters in the painting almost giving them a three dimensional appearance. At the same time these kinds of paintings can draw our attention to the source of light in the painting be it from a candle, through a window, or coming from another source. In Stomer’s painting above it is clear that the source of light is the Christ child, whose radiance reveals the faces of Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds.

Stomer’s use of *chiaroscuro* in his *Adoration of the Shepherds* makes a theological statement about Jesus and this painting is fitting for this season in which we utilize the contrast of light and dark to give focus to how God, through Christ, offers light to the world. We long for God’s hope that breaks through the darkness of despair, we yearn for peace amid hostility in the world, we rejoice in God’s comfort in our times of sorrow, and we are moved by God’s love that confronts hate. Indeed we celebrate God’s light shining in the darkness.

May your Christmas be made warm and bright with the Love of God revealed in the Christ child!

Happy Christmas and Blessings to you in the New Year!

Rev. Jeffrey M. Murray



Featured books from the St. Andrew's Library

Submitted by Beth Cockburn-Savoie

Angels In Our Midst

By The editors of Guideposts

Have you ever wondered if you would be able to spot your guardian angel? Angels In Our Midst invites you to ponder the real-life stories of ordinary men and women whose lives have been completely altered by the remarkable work of angels. The stories collected in this book will help all of us understand the true nature of angels, and realize that their presence provides not just succor but the reassuring evidence of a loving God who is forever watching over us. Here is your invitation to enter a new level of wonder in your life, explore the ageless mysteries of divine intervention, and discover how you might recognize your own angel in times of need.

Praying in Color Kids' Edition

By Sybil MacBeth

This first-of-its-kind resource will forever change the way kids pray- and how adults try to teach them to do it. This is a prayer that makes sense to kids. One minute a day will do. Any time of the day will work. Drawing with crayons or markers is half the prayer; the pother half is carrying the visual memories throughout the day. Sybil MacBeth makes it astonishingly clear that anyone with a box of colours and some paper can have a conversation with God.

AMS January Meeting

On Saturday 19 January the AMS will be hosting guest speaker Dr. Harold Popma who will be giving a presentation on Alzheimers.

All are invited to attend!!

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

To find out if a service is cancelled on a Sunday morning with inclement weather you may:

- 1) check the website – a notice will be posted on the main page
- 2) call the church (536-1952) – notice will be given as part of the standard greeting on the answering service.

Notices of cancellation will be made by 9:30a.m. for both website and phone answering service.
