

The KEY JANUARY 2026

Lutheran & Anglican Ministries of the Bruce Peninsula
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran, Wiarton & The Anglican Parish of the Bruce Peninsula
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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Hopes for our Future Together – Part Three

In the November and December KEY, a number of updates were provided regarding our ministry together as LAAMB and Christ Church, and how I would continue to serve as incumbent on a go-forward basis. The month of December saw us continue those conversations with these key meetings happening:

- December 11th - Meeting of LAAMB and Christ Church leaders, to discuss hopes and desires to re-joining together for ministry. Jamie and Gail representing LAAMB and Carl and Jo representing Christ Church, along with myself expressed overflowing hope and desire for all of us to return to working together in ministry.
- December 15th – Meeting of LAAMB churchwardens, Treasurer and myself to review the revised Model of Ministry, so that this document could be shared with Christ Church leaders before it is moved to any vestry for voting. This is a significant step for all of us, as the Model of Ministry describes how we work together as congregations in a joint ministry. If Christ Church and LAAMB are to share in joint ministry, there has to be heartfelt agreement on how we work together, and everyone's voice needs to be heard and considered in this document that describes our common work together.
- (pending at the time of this submission to the KEY editor) December 29th – Meeting of Christ Church churchwardens and myself to review the revised Model of Ministry from December 15th.
- Christ Church churchwardens reached out to other mid-Peninsula churches to begin a process of exploration of what further ministry might happen ecumenically.

In January 2026, and into the new year, we hope to further follow up by doing the following:

- Having Christ Church council and vestry review the Model of Ministry to identify whether there are further changes required for this operational document to describe how we would all like to work together.
- Having Christ Church churchwardens, council and vestry review the LAAMB Parish Share formula currently being used (passed by LAAMB in September 2023). The goal of this

Follow The Spirit



review is to identify whether there are further changes required for this formula to be agreeable for Christ Church, as we move together towards rejoining.

- I will further follow up with the Diocese to examine the “how” for reducing my workload in a way that would continue to support the joint ministry of LAAMB, Christ Church and any other congregations that may like to work alongside us.

Just to re-iterate, as there has been some anxiety and mis-communication about my ongoing ministry leadership on the Peninsula: I do hope to reduce my overall workload some time after Lent 2026. How this will happen will be a joint conversation between myself, the Diocese and the congregations currently in my care. The current working arrangements will prevail through Lent and possibly through Easter.

I also wanted to extend a hearty word of thanks to all those who lead services when I got the stomach flu very badly just before fourth Advent Sunday, and was laid low through the high festival celebrations of Christmas.

Charlotte (Wiarion), Carl (Lion’s Head), Graham and Mona (Tobermory and Lion’s Head) lead beautiful services, and I got glowing reports from regular worship participants as well as drop-in participants, who were deeply fed and nourished by the services they attended while I was out sick.

Many of you also reached out to me personally, including the provision of Christmas treats, a delightful squeaking squirrel toy for Luna, and a complete frozen Pebbles Christmas Turkey dinner 😊

I was reminded not only of the blessing of Jesus who comes to dwell in our midst as a vulnerable human baby ... but also of Jesus who dwells in our midst in each other and how we serve, love, witness and care for each other. Thank you all for making this Christmas so memorable and meaningful even for the pastor who had to stay home sick. I love you deeply.

In Christ, Pastor Janaki.



Janaki Bandara – LAAMB and Christ Church pastor
email: janakibandara@diohuron.org and texting / voicemail
if you don’t get me in person, available at 519-588-7701

JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Year A

Epiphany of The Lord, Jan 4, 2026 (WorG)

ISAIAH 60:1-6/PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14
EPHESIANS 3:1-12/MATTHEW 2:1-12
9:30 St. Peter's & Trinity (Pastor Janaki)
11:30 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)
2:00 St. Edmund's, at TUC (Pastor Janaki)

Baptism of The Lord, Jan/ 11, 2026 (W)

ISAIAH 42:1-9/PSALM 29
ACTS 10:34-43/MATTHEW 3:13-17
9:30 St. Peter's/Trinity (Pastor Janaki)
11:30 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)
2:00 St. Edmund's, at TUC (Pastor Janaki)

2ND Sunday after The Epiphany, Jan 18, 2026 (G)

ISAIAH 49:1-7/PSALM 40:1-12
1 Corinthians 1:1-9/John 1:29-42
9:30 St. Peter's/Trinity (Pastor Janaki)
11:30 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)
2:00 St. Edmund's (Pastor Janaki)

3RD Sunday after The Epiphany, Jan25, 2026 (G)

ISAIAH 9:1-4/PSALM 27:1, 5-13
1 CORINTHIANS 1: 10-18/ MATTHEW: 4:12-23
9:30 St. Peter's/Trinity (Pastor Janaki)
11:30 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)
2:00 St. Edmund's (Pastor Janaki)

Mark Your Calendar

4th Sunday after The Epiphany, Feb 1, 2026 (G)

MICAH 6:1-8/PSALM 15
1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31/MATTHEW 5:1-12
10:00 St. Peter's/Trinity
PARISH SERVICE
Followed by Potluck Lunch, then
Annual General Vestry Meeting
In person & on Zoom(Pastor Janaki)
11:30 Christ Church (TBC)
2:00 St. Edmund's (NO SERVICE)

Sponsorship Opportunities

The KEY may be sponsored for \$60.00
An individual congregational bulletin may be sponsored for \$30.00

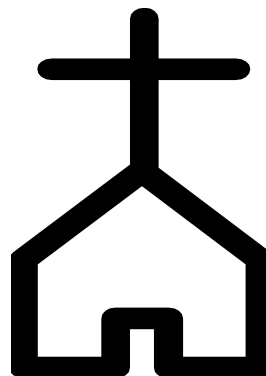
If you wish to make these donations, please speak with Satomi in the Parish Office.

LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN MINISTRIES OF THE BRUCE PENINSULA

Together in faith,
loving and serving God
by helping others.

We pledge to:

- be led by Holy Spirit
- embrace differences
- adapt to changing times



*MISSION STATEMENT,
adopted by PPC, November 14, 2018*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY EVENTS

Wiaraton Ladies

Saturday, January 10th
 Gathering – Games at 12 pm
 Catered Roast Beef Dinner
 At 1:00 p.m.
 St. Peter's & Trinity
 Fellowship Hall
 Cost - \$25.00
 Sign up by December 31st



NEXT AVGEN ORDER

Orders Collected
 Last Sunday of January the 25th
 Cheques must be made payable to Christ
 Church
 In the memo line record 'Avgen in trust'



Ecumenical Hymn Sing
 Tuesday, January 27th
 From 2:00 to 3:30 pm
 Christ Church, Lion's Head

ADVANCE NOTICE

Annual LAAMB Vestry Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday February 1st

At 12:30 pm post-worship pot-luck
 Location
 St. Peter's Lutheran Church
 Meeting In person and on Zoom

Mid-Peninsula Ecumenical Group

Lent Pot Luck 'Tea'

United Church, Lion's Head

'All are welcome'

Join us for

A Reflection, Reading & Hymn Sing

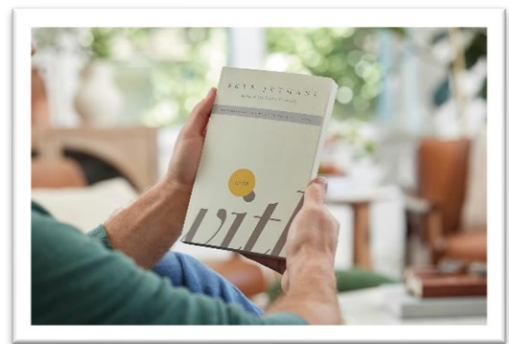
From 2:00 to 3:30

Tuesdays,

Feb. 24th,

March 3rd ,10th ,17th , & 24th

Lent Book Study on Zoom



Starting February 26th

Full details on page 5

Welcome 2026



LAAMB
 LUTHERAN AND ANGLICAN
 MINISTERS OF THE BRUCE PENINSULA

A Book Study for LENT 2025:

LENT is just around the corner! By the time you read and inwardly digest this, you will want to order your book for our 2025 LENT Book Study.

The study of Skye Jethani's book "*WITH: Reimagining the Way you Relate to God*" will be offered during Lent on Zoom. There is no need to sign up in advance. The Zoom link will be shared with worship notices beginning on February 23rd, 2026.

We will do this study on Thursdays at 7pm by ZOOM as follows:

Thursday February 26 th , 7 pm	– study questions from Appendix B for Chapters 1 & 2.
Thursday March 5 th , 7 pm	– study questions from Appendix B for Chapters 3 & 4.
Thursday March 12 th , 7 pm	– study questions from Appendix B for Chapters 5 & 6.
Thursday March 19 th , 7 pm	– study questions from Appendix B for Chapters 7 & 8
Thursday March 26 th , 7 pm	– study questions from Appendix B for Chapter 9 and as time permits, discussion from Appendix A.

This book is available from Amazon.ca (\$24.99 + tax and shipping). If you would like a copy ordered from the church office, please call Satomi at the LAAMB office and leave a voicemail.

There is no need to sign up in advance. The Zoom link will be shared with worship notices beginning on February 23rd, 2026.

The first session February 26th study segment covers approximately 40 pages of reading.

Pastor Janaki



"I downloaded them from a cloud."

Esther's Story

In Persia's halls of marble white,
A queen arose, both fair and bright.
Her name was Esther, hidden, small,
Yet chosen by God to save them all.

The king decreed with careless hand,
A threat against her people's land.
Haman's pride, a poison deep,
Plotted ruin, shadows creep.

But Esther, clothed in courage rare,
Stepped forth with fasting,
clothed in prayer.
She risked her life, her voice was clear,
"For my people, I draw near."

The king was moved, the plot undone,
The Jews were spared, the battle won.
From hidden roots, her strength did grow,
A quiet flame that dared to show.



Mary Beth Ginn
Lighting the 4th Advent Candle
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Window in the
Basilica of St. Viers in Ellwanger, Germany

Don't count the days
Make the days count!



*"So teach us to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts unto
wisdom." – Psalm 90:12*

A Reflection on Hope

Hope is a curious thing. We all know what it feels like, although it can be hard to put into words. Sometimes hope feels light and fluttering, like a wish we toss into the air: I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow. I hope this recipe turns out. I hope the weather holds for the wedding. These are the everyday hopes that fill our lives—hopes for good meals, good visits, good outcomes, even peace in the world. They are tender, human hopes, and because they depend on circumstances, they can leave us disappointed. When things don't turn out the way we wished, the sting can make us wary of hoping again.

It's understandable that we sometimes lower our expectations to protect ourselves. Hoping can feel risky. It opens our hearts. It makes us vulnerable to the ache of "what if not." And yet, there is something undeniably life-giving about hope. It energizes us. It pulls us forward. It invites us to participate in the good we long for. Living without hope—living with low expectations—can leave us cynical, dull, and passive. Hope, even when it feels risky, keeps us conscious of the possibility.

I often think of a moment from my own life that taught me more about hope than I could have thought possible. When my son Scott was about five years old, he told me he hoped his friend Miles could come over to play. Knowing it was unlikely, I tried to soften the blow by saying, "I'll ask his Mom but don't get your hopes up." Immediately, he burst into tears. "that makes me feel worse your saying that. You've got to hope for everything."

It stopped me in my tracks. Out of the mouth of a child came a truth so simple and so profound that I never forgot it. Hope for everything.

Scripture invites us into an even deeper kind of hope—one that is not merely wishing for a favourable outcome but trusting in a future that is

already held secure by God. Biblical hope is not fragile or uncertain. It is not optimism or positive thinking. It is confidence rooted in the character of God. We don't say, "I hope the sun will rise tomorrow," because we know it will. That is the kind of certainty the Bible speaks of when it speaks of hope.

"Biblical hope is different than optimism. Hope rests on something beyond ourselves. It necessitates a faith that God can and will act to set all things right—things that are beyond our capacity to make happen."

Hope, in this sense, always looks forward. It does not dwell in regret or nostalgia. It lifts our eyes toward what God is doing and will do. And it carries a posture of trust—positive, expectant, never cynical.

As we begin a new year, we are invited once again to fix our eyes on God, the One who holds our future with mercy and steadfast love. Hope is not naïve. It is courageous. It is the decision to believe that God is not finished with us or with the world.

So I invite you to complete this sentence in your own heart:

Today I look forward in hope for.....

Let that hope rise. Let it stretch. Let it be bold. After all, as a wise five-year-old once reminded me, you've got to hope for everything.



Charlotte Ewbank, Editor

SUNDAY HUMOUR



"Our mouths were filled with laughter"

Psalms 126:2

Paraprosdokians
(What?)

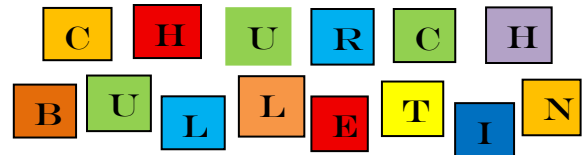
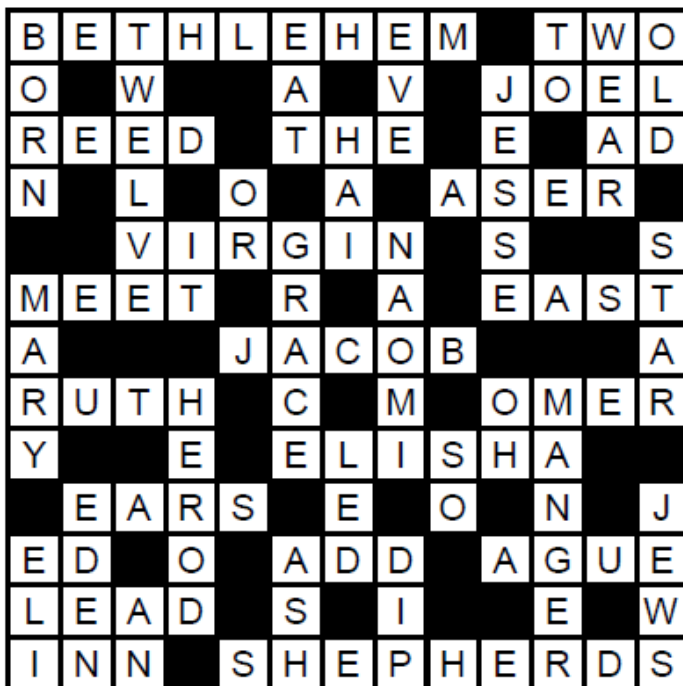


Going to church doesn't make you a Christian
any more than standing in a garage makes you
a mechanic

Paraprosdokians written by
Winston Churchill



Answer December Crossword



BLUNDERS!

The eighth-graders will be
presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in
the church basement on Friday at 7
p.m. The congregation is invited to
attend this tragedy.



Biblical Anagrams

December Answer:

Observe My Sabbaths

Leviticus 19:30

New Anagram for January

Adolphe holiest roofer



.....

.....

Hint: verse is in Jeremiah



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Across

- 1 The origin of life (8)
- 5 The gathering together of the waters were called these (4)
- 8 Made by a spider (3)
- 9 The trees were created on this day (5)
- 10 New Testament (abbreviated) (2)
- 11 To exist or occur (2)
- 12 This light was made to rule the night (6)
- 14 Atmosphere (3)
- 15 The first garden (4)
- 18 An undefined action or object (2)
- 19 One of the rivers originating in Eden (9)
- 21 Thus (2)
- 22 These were created on the fifth day (4)

- 24 The apostle John wrote with this (3)
- 25 The name of the firmament which God created (6)
- 28 In the year of our Lord (abbreviated) (2)
- 29 Alternatively (2)
- 30 The whales were created on this day (5)
- 31 Adam and Eve sewed leaves from this tree to make aprons (3)
- 32 Darkness was on the face of this before light was created (4)

- 33 God divided this from the light (8)

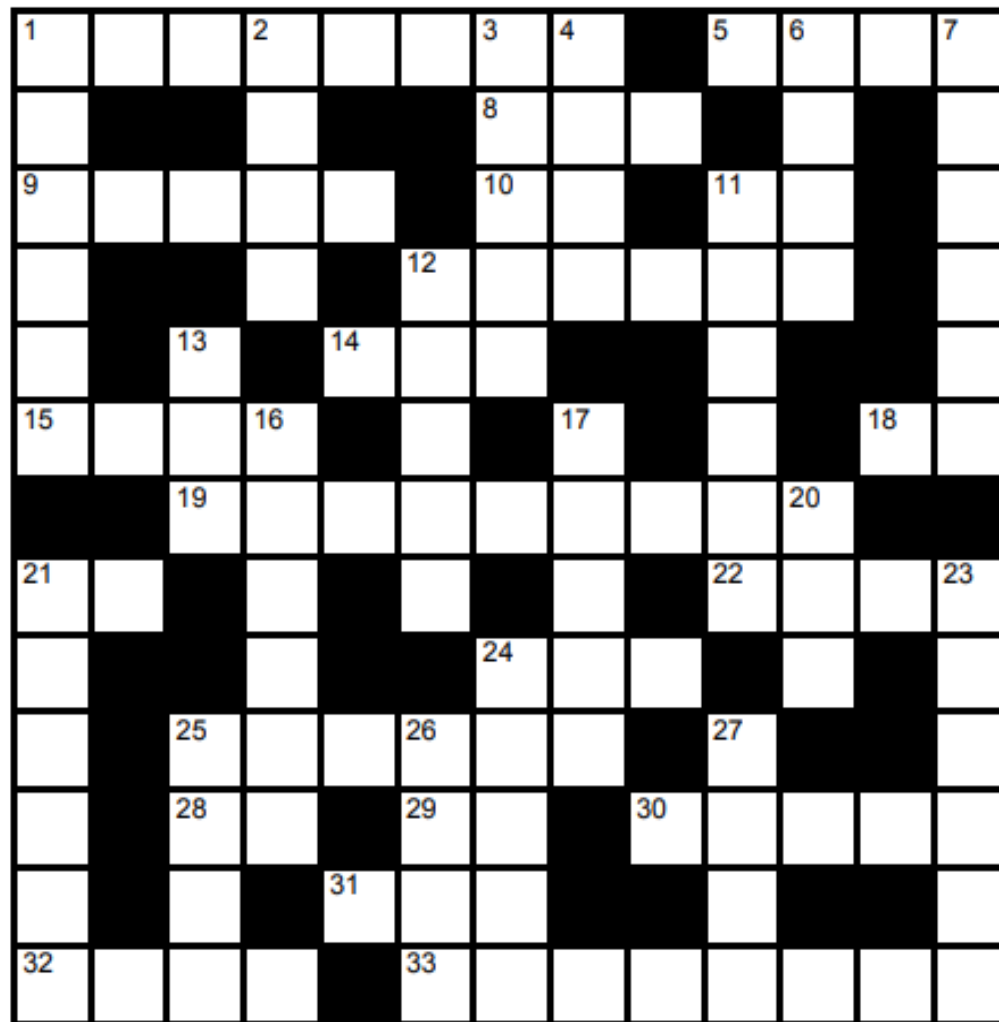
Down

- 1 These were created on the sixth day (6)
- 2 An area of land (4)
- 3 One who possesses (5)
- 4 Used to catch fish (4)
- 6 Always (4)

- 7 This moved on the face of the waters (6)
- 11 Faith (6)
- 12 God created this on the first day (5)
- 13 To observe (3)
- 16 Cared for babies or children (6)
- 17 Removed (5)
- 20 To scatter seed (3)
- 21 The firmament was created on this day (6)

- 23 Two of these appeared on the fourth day (6)
- 24 Paul visited here on his first journey (5)
- 25 To possess (4)
- 26 The earth was this in the beginning (4)
- 27 The sun was to be this in the sky (4)

January CROSSWORD Creation






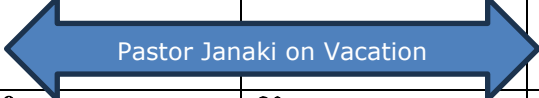
by Colin

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LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN CONGREGATIONS EVENTS CALENDAR – JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Lutheran & Anglican Ministries of the Bruce Peninsula Office 519-534-1604 Office Hours: Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>				<p>1. </p>	2.	3.
<p>4. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's at Tobermory United</p>	5.	<p>6. 9:00 am Ministries 10:00 PPC On Zoom</p>	7.	<p>8. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i></p>	9.	<p>10. Christ Church Council - 10:00 am Warton Ladies New Year's Celebration Dinner</p>
						
<p>11. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's at TUC</p>	12.	<p>13. Golden Dawn Service Lion's Head</p>	14.	<p>15. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i></p>	16.	17.
						
<p>18. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's at TUC</p>	19.	20.	<p>21. 10:00 am St. Peter's & Trinity Joint Council</p>	<p>22. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i></p>	23	24.
<p>25. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's at TUC AVGEN Orders Due</p>	26..	<p>27. 2:00 Ecumenical Hymn Sing at Christ Church</p>	<p>28.. 10:00 St. Peter's Annual Meeting</p>	<p>29. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i></p>	30.	31.