



# The Spirit

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church

December 2018

Being & Making Disciples!

## A Christmas Reflection

As the winter winds chill the air and plants prepare for their hibernation rest, hearts and minds turn to sentiments and thoughts of Christmas. What word does this season give that inspires us?

In Ann Voskamp's devotional book, **The Greatest Gift: Unwrapping the Full Love Story of Christmas**, she shares the following reflection: *I don't want a Christmas you can buy. I don't want a Christmas you can make. What I want is a Christmas you can hold. A Christmas that holds me, remakes me, revives me. I want a Christmas that whispers, "Jesus."*

Perhaps we are feeling some of that same sentiment. "We don't want a Christmas we can buy or even make." There is plenty of that to go around. While such focus drives our economy, there is something that seems empty and hollow about hundreds of dollars' worth of gifts stacked around the Christmas tree. No doubt, some will bring joy and delight to children and adults alike. But others will despair of gifts that weren't well thought out or perhaps given as an afterthought. Still other gifts turn out to be the wrong size or color and will need to be exchanged in the post-Christmas rush.

Let's pause a moment and go deeper. What is Ann Voskamp saying to us? *I want a Christmas that holds me, remakes me, revives me. I want a Christmas that whispers, "Jesus."* Something in those words resonates with me. As I add another tinsel-colored strand or two to my already silver-streaked hair, the gifts, even those well-intentioned ones, carry less weight for me. What fills my heart is simply spending time with family. My own family as it continues to expand and grow, treasuring those moments with loved ones because they are precious moments, even if they are imperfect at best. The other is spending time with this family of faith we call Holy Ghost.

This year we will expand Christmas Eve Candlelight to four services (3, 5, 8, and 10pm) to provide more opportunities for this faith family and its extended family to join in worship. Yes! Though it is a traditional worship service, there is something special as we read the story of our Savior's birth from Luke 2, interspersed with a variety of Christmas carols. We commune together, sharing Christ's body and blood shed for us on the cross, and are reminded that this Christ-child, so tender and mild, was born to die. It is impossible not to make a connection between Christmas and Easter, for it is wrapped up in the One who would make the ultimate sacrifice so that we might be saved.

The highlight of that time together follows the foretaste of the feast to come as we settle for a few moments, turn on the candlelights, turn off the house lights, listen for that still small voice in the midst of the tumultuousness of our world, and begin to sing:



*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright*

*Round you virgin mother and child.*

*Holy infant, so tender and mild,*

*Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace!*

And somehow, if even for a brief moment, we hear that whisper that points us to Jesus! Perhaps we feel His presence, His peace, or the hope and assurance that there truly is a God who does care, who does meet us in the trenches and shadows of life. The one who came as an infant would wrestle with death and the devil and win the victory - a victory we can celebrate because it has eternal merit. When the name of Jesus is whispered to us, may we pass on that hope as we whisper it to others!

A blessed Christmas to all!  
Pastor David

**Special Giving Opportunities**

The holidays and the year's end often provide people the opportunity to reflect on the goodness of God's blessings in their lives. The Holy Spirit prompts our hearts to look for ministry areas of the church which could be strengthened with special gifts. A few to keep in mind include:

Life Care Ministry: A partnership begun with Pastor Rick McMinn in April 2018 which leans into the "darker" areas of people's lives by sharing the light of Christ. Pastor Rick provides individual, couples, and family counseling, offers workshops, and teaches Sunday School classes to help people cope and have hope. All these services are FREE because this program began with an anonymous special gift of \$15K for Pastor Rick's giving ten hours a week. Contributions have been made during the year to continue the program in 2019, but additional monies are yet needed for full funding. This service is available to Holy Ghosters as well as the general community.

Associate/Visitation Pastor Seed Fund: A special account created to begin receiving support for the addition of another pastor. This is in line with the plan to create a full-time visitation pastor position to minister to the growing needs of our elderly population. We have two excellent visitation ministers who provide a combined three-fourths time to persons who are homebound or in nursing care facilities. But with the growing rise of members who are aging from the baby boomer segment, the number of older members will continue to increase and need spiritual attention. The timeline is to make pastoral staff adjustments by mid-2020. Planning today for tomorrow is the goal of this fund so that seed money could provide a healthy boost outside the budget for when the time comes.

Emergency Aid Fund: There are times in people's lives when crisis, sickness, and hard times leave them in need of additional resources to get over a financial hump. Utility bills, rent, doctor's expenses, and other basic needs must be met. As the pastors become aware of such instances, conversations occur, and after vetting the situation, financial aid may be issued. Cash is not distributed to persons from these funds; rather the debts are paid directly to the party that is owed. Funds are dispersed at the pastors' discretion, and details are kept confidential.

Other opportunities include:

1- The Endowment Fund which is a permanent account. A percentage of the interest is designated for ministry grants annually.

2- The Feller Fund which, from its interest, divides proceeds for scholarships to Texas Lutheran University students from HGLC and the Sunday School program.

3- The Frantzen Fund which, from its interest, provides emergency aid to members of HGLC at the discretion of the pastors.

4- Stroeher Fund which, from its interest, provides monies for special music events in the church.

5- TLU Fund which, from its interest, provides scholarships for Texas Lutheran University students from HGLC.

6- Organ Fund which receives gifts for major organ repairs which will be needed in the not-too-distant future.

**Needed**



The Salvation Army Ringers!

If you'd like to wear a Santa hat & ring the kettle bell in

our community to support the work of the Salvation Army, call 512-905-7723, or email

[joe.houde@mac.com](mailto:joe.houde@mac.com) (type "kettle bell" in the subject line).

**Holymark Card Makers**

**Ladies, we have had a wonderful year! We are taking a month off in December to get other things done. No meetings!**

**Mark your calendars for the new year, however! We will meet again on January 3rd and 17th.**

**HOLY GHOST LUTHERAN WOMEN OF FAITH**

**THANKOFFERING SERVICES** were Sunday, November 11 at the 8:00 and 10:30 services. Twenty-four women were honored to take part in these worship opportunities. Special thanks to these women for their God-given talents, and thanks to the pastors for allowing us to be part of these services. The Hill Country Community Needs Council and The Good Samaritan Center shared equally in the Thankoffering collection of \$1,227.00. Thank you to our congregation for their generosity. These two organizations are very important to our community and appreciate each dollar received.

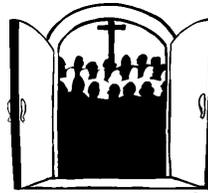
**The 19<sup>th</sup> EPIPHANY TEA** will be January 6, 2019 at the Fellowship Hall. If you wish to adopt a table or two, please contact Liz Hohenberger at 997-3903 or 456-6354. The deadline to adopt a table is December 27, 2018. If anyone would like to share some of your favorite finger foods, it would be very much appreciated. Invite your friends or a special guest to enjoy a devotion, fellowship and a decadent brunch. Come early and enjoy viewing the beautifully decorated tables.

**FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS** are sold by the different circles the first weekend of each month. There are 1.65 million farmers and workers in the Fair Trade Program. 26% of the farmers are women. They receive a fair price for their products. The proceeds go toward building wells, sending children to school, building homes, buying animals, and purchasing items for their garden. These monies also help provide access to water, fight malaria, and other medical needs. 100% of the proceeds go back to the women.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Dec. 1 & 2 – Fair Trade Products Sale – Evening Guild
- Dec. 10 – Evening Guild Meeting – 6:00pm – Fellowship Hall
- Dec. 13 – Lydia Circle & Katherine Luther Circle meet together for Christmas at 11:00 – Fellowship Hall
- Jan. 6, 2019 – Epiphany Tea – 9:00am – Fellowship Hall

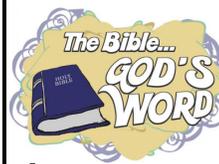
**A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!**



**The Congregational Bi-Annual Meeting**

**Congregational MEETING**

The meeting is Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> immediately following the 10:30am worship. The agenda includes: election of 2019 council persons, appreciation of outgoing council persons, presentation of the 2019 budget, Investment Team recommendations, a council proposal for one-half of the midweek Lenten offering to be given to a designated benevolent ministry, a Building Team update, and other announcements. All confirmed members are encouraged to be part of the business ministry of the Church.



From the R Team. While many think of spring as a time for rebirth, December is really a time of rebirth for many Christians. Hoping that in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season you are able to take the time to remember what it's all about and to spread that message to others. Merry Christmas from the R Team - read the Scripture daily.

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| John 3:3           | 1 Thessalonians 4:16 |
| 2 Corinthians 5:17 | Ephesians 2:8-10     |
| Titus 3:5          | Matthew 28:19        |
| Mark 16:16         | 1 Peter 1:23         |
| James 1:22         | Titus 2:13           |
| John 1:12          | 1 Corinthians 15:51  |
| John 3:16          | Luke 17:30           |



**Christmas Day Dinner**

The Local Missions Team will provide Christmas dinner at noon in the Fellowship Hall, along with deliveries to shut-ins. This will be our third year of providing this community outreach, as well as a service to our own members who do not have family at Christmas. It is a great time of fellowship and service. Watch for opportunities to sign up for reservations for dinner or to serve in some capacity on Christmas Day during December. Call Linda Christensen with any questions: 309 361-3970.

Again a big **THANK YOU** to all who worked on Simply Service Sunday in October. You brought smiles to many faces.



**Nativity Display and Saturday Evening Worship**

The annual tradition on the Saturday night when the Nativity display is have is to offer worship in the Fellowship Hall (Alpha Room). This allows the congregation after worshipping to immediately be able to visit the creches in the Omega Room of the Fellowship Hall and thereafter enjoy hot chocolate, coffee, and homemade cookies. Come worship in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 8.

**The Community Church-to-Church Walk**

The Church-to-Church Walk is Wednesday, December 19 beginning at Zion Lutheran Church at 6pm. This annual tradition is part of a long history of the downtown churches partnering together to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Starting at Zion, the procession will proceed to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Holy Ghost Church, and Bethany Lutheran Church where refreshments will be served. As an offering everyone is encouraged to bring food to supply the FBG Food Pantry.

**Bethany's Christmas Journey!**



HGLC is invited to be part of the cast for the Christmas Journey on Thursday & Friday December 14 & 15 at Bethany Lutheran Church. Cast, set up, and take down are places where assistance is needed. HGLC participation is a great way for Lutherans in Fredericksburg to share in our faith and witness in the community. Lynne and Jim Parker are the contact persons for sign up, 830-456-6440.

**2018 Contributions**

If you wish for your contributions to be recorded in 2018, please submit your offerings to the church office by noon on Friday, Dec. 28, or place them in the offering plate at the New Year's Eve service. Mailed gifts must be post-marked on or before December 31, 2018.

***Thank you for your financial support!***



**Four Christmas Eve Services!**

Due to the large crowds on Christmas Eve, four opportunities to worship the newborn King will be offered this year! The new addition of a 3pm service will provide an opportunity for families who need to get on the road or have early meal celebrations planned or for those who want to be home before dark. This is in addition to the filled-to-the-brim service at 5pm (500+ attendees); the 8pm service (250 in attendance); and the 10pm (150 attending). All four services offer the same carols, message, Bible readings, communion, and candlelight. You are encouraged to attend the one that best fits your Christmas Eve schedule.



**New Year's Eve Service!**

Close out the calendar year and begin your new year by worshipping the Lord! A laid-back, reflective, and meaningful service is offered at 6pm on Monday, December 31. Come and worship the Lord as farewells are said to 2018 and greetings to 2019!



**Special Offering for December**

The special offering for December is designated for Mexico Mission Trip Support. Pastor Clint through Mission de Candelilla (Curtis & Sarah Allercamp) will lead the youth group in delivering the hundreds of buckets and containers of basic need items that will be collected during the month. Support is needed by adopting a person in the village and buying items to fill the personal container, or by offering a monetary gift that provides financial support for fuel, travel, and other mission-related items. Use the brown pew envelopes and give as God leads you to give above and beyond your regular tithes and offerings.

*Worship*  
SCHEDULE

**WORSHIP IN DECEMBER**

*Saturday, 6:00pm offers an informal service;  
Sunday, 8:00am is a traditional service; and  
Sunday, 10:30am is a varied format.*

**“Come, let us worship the Lord!”**

**DECEMBER WORSHIP THEMES**

**Sermon Series:**

“J.E.S.U.S!” is the message focus for December as each letter will explore the story of salvation about why God sent His only begotten Son into the world. Jehovah, Emmanuel, Sin, Us, and Savior are the foci for the weekends during this holy month!

**Sat. & Sun., Dec. 1 & 2:** J is for “Jehovah” is the theme as God’s plan of salvation which God foretold from the time Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. God had a master plan too redeem sinners that was prophesied throughout the Old Testament. We celebrate its culmination in the coming of Jehovah’s Son!

**Sat. & Sun., Dec. 8 & 9:** E is for “Emmanuel.” This title for the baby Jesus means “God with us,” and that is His promise—to journey with us all our days. He is as close as our skin and as present as our breath.

Communion is served to remind us of this very gift! The choirs offer special Christmas music at the Sunday worships. Isaiah 14:7 is the Bible verse.

**Sat. & Sun., Dec. 15 & 16:** Our weekend focus is on the first “S” of JESUS, as we turn to the reason that Jesus came—to deliver us from “sin”. How might we be set free from the bondage to sin and come to know Jesus as our deliverer? 10:30am is the Sunday School Christmas Play.

**Sat. & Sun., Dec. 22 & 23:** U is for “Us” as we hear “unto us is born a child, unto us is born a son” (Isaiah 9:6). Yes, Christ was not only born for you, but he was born to die for you! Love doesn’t get more amazing than one’s willingness to sacrifice oneself for someone who is in the wrong! In the words of Holy Communion we say, “the body of Christ, given for you; and the blood of Christ, shed for you!” We celebrate Communion to remind us that He is given personally for us and particularly for you!

**Dec. 24, Christmas Eve:** A fourth candlelight service will be added this year as we will have services at 3, 5, 8, and 10 pm. Come and be renewed and refreshed as we hear the Glad Tidings of Jesus’ birth from Luke 2 and sing those wonderful Christmas carols.

**Tue., Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 9am:** The symbolism of Christmas is the theme of the day—the colors, movements, signs, images, and emblems provide the message. The deep and rich traditions that support the symbols of Christmas are often overlooked or taken for granted in the busyness of this treasured season, and they all point to the Christ child. Communion is shared on this holy of holy days.

**Sat. & Sun., Dec. 29 & 30:** Our Christmas series on JESUS concludes with the second “S” in Jesus’ name. Jesus is our “Savior.” Does that still amaze us and stir our hearts to faith? Luke 2:29-33 will be our scripture passage.

**Mon., Dec. 31:** A 6:00 pm New Year’s Eve service will be held as we ring out the old and look forward to the new. Communion will be served.

**Worship Formats in December**

|              | Sat., 6pm   | Sun., 8am            | Sun., 10:30am                 |
|--------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dec. 1 & 2   | Informal/piano  | Traditional/organ    | Christmas Praise Service      |
| Dec. 8 & 9   | Informal/organ  | Traditional/piano    | Semi-traditional/organ        |
|              |   | Choirs Special Music | Choirs Special Music          |
| Dec. 15 & 16 | Informal/piano  | Traditional/organ    | Sunday School Christmas Prog. |
| Dec. 22 & 23 | Informal/organ  | Traditional/organ    | Semi-traditional/organ        |
| Dec. 24      | Candlelight Christmas Eve Services with Communion at 3pm, 5pm, 8pm & 10pm |                      |                               |
| Dec. 25      | Traditional Christmas Worship with Communion at 9am                       |                      |                               |
|              | 5   |                      |                               |
| Dec. 29 & 30 | Christmas Carol Services throughout the weekend                           |                      |                               |
| Dec. 31      | New Year’s Eve Worship with Communion at 6pm                              |                      |                               |

**Calendar**

**Church Website**

**Ministry Schedule**  
**Excel Spreadsheet**

**Altar Guild:**

**December:** Cheryl Sione, Kristen Crenwelge, Virginia Feuge, Laura Lundquist, Valerie Bonn  
**January:** Windy Duecker, Lisa Olfers, Sandra Poole, Lisa Bullion, Judi Nardini

**Women of Faith Study Leaders:**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <u>Circles</u>   | <u>December</u>                               |
| Evening Guild    | Group   |
| Lydia Circle     | Christmas Party w/<br>Katherine Luther Circle |
| Katherine Luther | Christmas Party w/Lydia Circle                |

**Nursing Home Comm.: Holy Ghost**

|                  |         |                  |
|------------------|---------|------------------|
| Wednesday, 12-5  | 9:30am  | Knopp Assisted   |
| Wednesday, 12-5  | 10:00am | Knopp #2         |
| Thursday, 12-6   | 9:30am  | Heritage Place   |
| Thursday, 12-6   | 10:00am | Paige House      |
| Thursday, 12-6   | 10:30am | Tri-Star         |
| Wednesday, 12-12 | 9:30am  | Windcrest        |
| Wednesday, 12-12 | 10:30am | Fredericksburg   |
| Thursday, 12-13  | 9:30am  | Knopp Retirement |
| Thursday, 12-13  | 10:30am | Knopp #1         |



**Birthdays:**

|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| 12/14/20 | Mildred Grona  |
| 12/16/24 | Ruth Usener    |
| 12/24/23 | Loreen Nebgen  |
| 12/24/28 | Clarence Stahl |



**Anniversaries:**

|          |                          |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 12/21/68 | Marshall & Debbie Akin   |
| 12/26/59 | Earl & Sammie Knopp      |
| 12/30/55 | James & Ruth Welgehausen |

(If we missed your 90+ birthday or 50+ anniversary, please call the church office, 997-2288.)

**Pastoral Acts:**

**Baptisms:**

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| 11/4/18  | Henry Werchen     |
| 11/11/18 | Avery Denton      |
| 11/11/18 | Magdalena Weinelt |

**Funerals:**

|          |                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| 11/10/18 | Esther Sagebiel                  |
| 11/17/18 | Rosalie Ottmers                  |
| 11/19/18 | Florence "Flo" Zatopek           |
| 11/20/18 | Tammy Dennis (graveside service) |
| 11/27/18 | Vernell Scott                    |
| Pending  | Helen Jung                       |

**DOLLARS & CENTS**

**Holy Ghost Financial Report:**

Gen. Fund Balance, October 1, 2018: \$68,428.04  
 October Receipts: \$72,632.82  
 October Expenses: -\$59,630.84  
 Gen. Fund Balance, October 31, 2018: \$81,430.02

**Special Offerings For October:**

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Kindernest                 | \$505.00   |
| Operation Christmas Child: | \$1,488.11 |

**Financial Barometer:**

|         | <u>Income</u> | <u>Expenses</u> | <u>+/-</u>  |
|---------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| October | \$72,632.82   | -\$59,630.84    | \$13,001.98 |
| YTD     | \$716,102.71  | -\$669,672.69   | \$46,430.02 |

**Creek Street Property Fund:**

Dedicated Fund Balance, October 1, 2018: \$15,495.00  
 Receipts: \$17,264.67  
 Expenses: -\$15,421.00  
 Balance October 31, 2018: \$17,338.67

**Creek Street Property Loan:**

Loan Balance, October 31, 2018 \$617,663.95

**Offerings by Week/General Fund:**

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Monday, October 1, 2018  | \$17,223.45 |
| Monday, October 8, 2018  | \$17,356.00 |
| Monday, October 15, 2018 | \$11,911.40 |
| Monday, October 22, 2018 | \$11,993.61 |

The family of Esther Sagebiel would like to say thank you to their church family for the many prayers for Esther during her time of illness. Thank you also to the pastors for the many visits that were made to Esther. Thank you to the Evening Guild and to the Kitchen Team for the preparation of the food and for serving at the reception following the funeral.

Sincerely,  
 The Esther Sagebiel Family



Feeding John Program



**Feeding John**

Feeding John will be December 25th in combination with the Christmas Dinner. Please contact Sandy Birdleough with questions at 998-4504.

**A Word from the Stewardship Team**

*Required Minimum Distribution*

The dreaded RMD, is the requirement from the IRS that once we reach the age of 70 1/2 we must take distributions from our IRA, SEP, Simple, or retirement account. In most cases this results in taxable income to add to the tax return in the year of the distribution. But wait! There is an exception! The IRS allows you to make a tax-free transfer to a charity of your choice from your retirement account. You don't need to itemize deductions to get the tax benefit. Making a tax-free transfer also keeps the money out of your gross income. That could help you avoid the Medicare high-income surcharge in certain tax brackets. Keeping money out of your adjusted gross income could also make less of your Social Security benefits taxable. Do you have an RMD this year? *Talk to your accountant and your broker* to see if you can designate some of the required amount paid to the charity of your choice. For example:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Required Minimum Distribution                           | \$5,000        |
| Check from broker payable to the charity of your choice | <u>\$1,000</u> |
| Taxable distribution for 2017 to your return            | \$4,000        |

**Council Report**  
**November 19, 2018**

1. Called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with Mark Moellering leading the meeting with a devotion and prayer.
2. Rick McMinn gave a live report and council conducted an evaluation of the Life Care Ministry program, voting to continue in 2019 with donations funding outside the budget.
3. David Bullion gave an update on the building program indicating that the "program phase" is complete and the team is ready to proceed to the "design phase" which will require additional funding for an architect. The council will recommend to the congregation at the December 2nd meeting that HGLC engage Randy Stehling to do the architectural work.
4. An initial report was given concerning Pastor Clint's upcoming sabbatical in May, June & July 2019.
5. The council will recommend to the congregation at the December 2nd meeting that HGLC give one-half of it's mid-week Lenten offering away to the Oromo Lutheran Church mission in Houston.
6. Adopted the 2019 budget that will be presented to the congregation.
7. Received Mark & Nelda Scharringhausen as transfer members from Zion, Kerrville.
8. Updated the Youth Protection Awareness Program.
9. With regrets received Carrie Culpepper's resignation from council due to the family relocating.
10. Church office front reception space will be re-modeled to make more functional.
11. Concluded the meeting at 8:50pm with prayers for the church, community, and individuals.



**First Holy Communion**

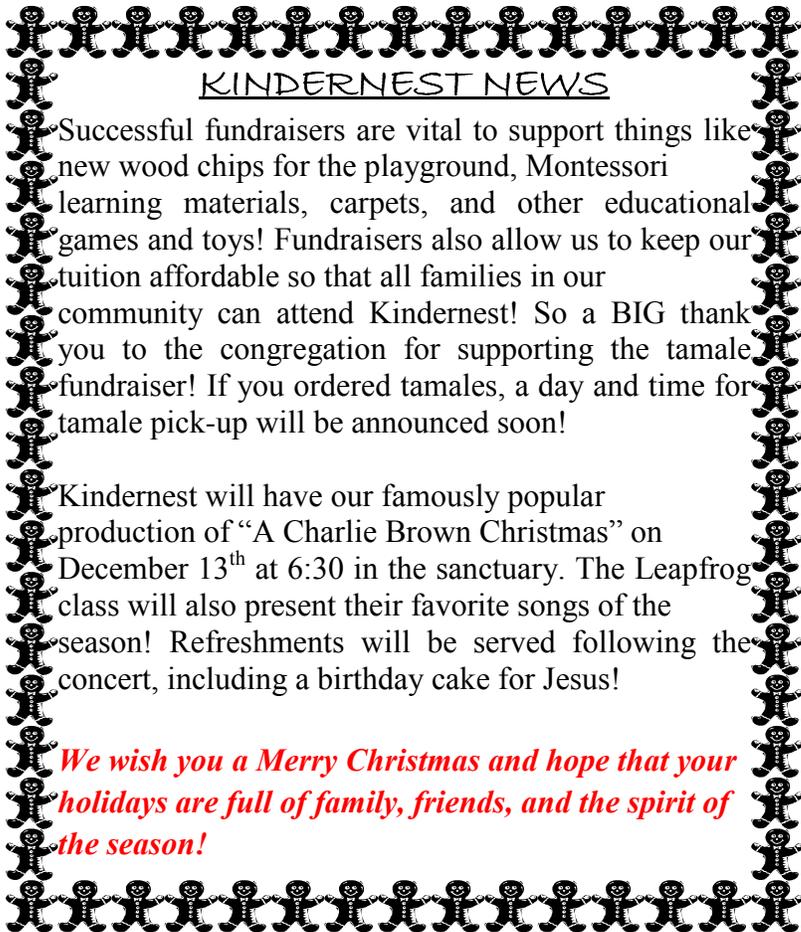
- Praise be to God and congratulations to the children who celebrated their First Holy Communion on November 21st!
- Greyson Crenwelge                      Isabella Reeh
- Hagen Jacoby                              Hannah Sagebiel
- Hewston Lochte                         Anabella Sione
- Brynlee Staedtler                         Derrick Wendel

**Suicide Memorial**

For families and friends of persons who have tragically chosen to end their own life, an opportunity to remember those loved ones will be provided on Monday, Dec. 3 at 6pm at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. You are invited to bring a picture of your loved one. Rick McMinn with the Life Care Ministry will lead the memorial. The community is welcome.

**Life Care Ministry Opportunities**

**Private counseling sessions** are available at Pastor Rick's office by appointment.  
Call (830) 370-9237



KINDERNEST NEWS

Successful fundraisers are vital to support things like new wood chips for the playground, Montessori learning materials, carpets, and other educational games and toys! Fundraisers also allow us to keep our tuition affordable so that all families in our community can attend Kindernest! So a BIG thank you to the congregation for supporting the tamale fundraiser! If you ordered tamales, a day and time for tamale pick-up will be announced soon!

Kindernest will have our famously popular production of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the sanctuary. The Leapfrog class will also present their favorite songs of the season! Refreshments will be served following the concert, including a birthday cake for Jesus!

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and hope that your holidays are full of family, friends, and the spirit of the season!*



Cancer Support Group

This new ministry meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month as survivors, thrivers, family members, and friends gather to provide support and care in the journey with cancer. Iris Burer & Karen Dolezal lead this ministry which meets in the Alpha Room of the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30pm.

Locked Doors

Persons who use the east side doors to enter the church will now find the doors locked from the outside. This is an effort to increase security by locking an entrance that is minimally used. You may still exit via the east doors—just not enter. Please excuse any inconvenience as it is for added extra safety for worshippers. The front and west side doors are open for entrance and exit.

Adult Class Opportunities

G.R.A.C.E.D!

The "C" means "Connect in a Study or Small Group!"

Sunday Morning Opportunities: (9:15am)

**Unshakable Hope:** A book study on Max Lucado's new book. Led by Pastor Bobby.

**God's World & God's People:** A study based on Genesis is led by Jim Paige and Norm Nevins.

**The Book of Proverbs:** Proverbs is one of the Old Testament books filled with Wisdom Literature, much of which is attributed to King Solomon. Some proverbs provide "common sense" that is still valuable for us today, while other proverbs challenge us in our sin. The class is led by Pastor David.

Midweek Studies:

**Ladies' Lunch Study:** On December 12th the group will meet for an offsite lunch social. All ladies are welcome even if you haven't attended before. In January we will reconvene with a new study on our normal schedule—every other Wednesday from noon to 1ish in the HG Fellowship Hall Alpha Room. Watch the bulletin for more details. If you've thought about joining a study but weren't sure, give us a try in 2019! We're a diverse group of not-too-serious ladies of all ages who enjoy studying and laughing together. For more details about the December 12 luncheon or the upcoming study, call/text Kim Gibbs at (830) 456-7299 or Barbara George at bdgeorge@beecreek.net.

**Extra Books of the Bible:** This class is led by Pastor David and meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am in the FH.

**Men's Community Bible Study:** This study meets every Thursday at 7:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

**Men's Breakfast Devotion:** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6:30am a group meets for food, fellowship, and a devotion at Jalisco's Restaurant.

Church Office Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed on December 24th and 25th in honor of Christmas. The office will also be closed on January 1st in honor of New Year's.

If you have a need for a pastor during these times, please call one at his residence.

Pastor Bobby: 992-3579

Pastor David: 997-2287

The Spirit is the official news publication of Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Fbg., Texas, which is wholly responsible for its content.

The Ministers, the Congregation  
 Bobby Vitek, Pastor David Priem, Pastor  
 Clint Pluenneke, Pastor of Youth & Family Ministries  
 Daniel Hofmann, Minister of Children & Young Families

Shanese Lochte, Office Manager  
 Donna Reinke, Office Assistant  
 Blake Neffendorf, Office Assistant  
 June Woerner, Finance Secretary  
 Pastor Alan Williams, Visitation Minister  
 Pastor Jan Unger, Visitation Minister  
 Rick McMinn, Life Care Ministry  
 Marti Jennings, Ministry Facilitator  
 Kim Bonillas, Kindermost Preschool Director  
 Jim Parker, Maintenance Technician  
 Deanne Moellering, Music Ministry Coord.  
 Carol Brinkmann, Fellowship Hall Supervisor  
 Pastor Arnold Schlueter, Pastor Emeritus  
 Pastor Paul & Marie Senff, Missionaries Emeritus

### Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday: 8:30 a.m. - noon

Telephone: 997-2288 / Fax: 997-7869  
 Email: [holyghost@austin.twcbc.com](mailto:holyghost@austin.twcbc.com)  
 Website: [www.holyghostfbg.org](http://www.holyghostfbg.org)

Bobby Vitek - [pastorbv@austin.twcbc.com](mailto:pastorbv@austin.twcbc.com)  
 David Priem - [pastordp@austin.twcbc.com](mailto:pastordp@austin.twcbc.com)  
 Clint Pluenneke - [clintp@austin.twcbc.com](mailto:clintp@austin.twcbc.com)  
 Daniel Hofmann - [danielh@austin.twcbc.com](mailto:danielh@austin.twcbc.com)  
 Rick McMinn - [rmcminn@hotmail.com](mailto:rmcminn@hotmail.com)

Kindermost Montessori Preschool  
 113 E. San Antonio Street  
 Fredericksburg, Texas 78624  
 Telephone: 997-8939



### Please keep us informed

There are many times when your phone call to the church office is the only way we may discover that someone is in the hospital, ill, or in need of a pastoral visit. Please let us know if you have special needs outside the regular office hours.

### Nursery

Childcare is available on Sunday mornings from 7:45am-noon so that parents might attend worship and/or Sunday School. Children ages 8-months through 4-years-old are welcome. Penny Ersch is the childcare provider. Penny Ersch also coordinates the volunteers.

### MINISTRY TEAMS:

|                          |                   |              |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Barnabas Team            | JoAnn Durst       | 997-2245     |
| Building Comm.           | Kory Keller       | 210-213-7035 |
| "C" Team Contact         | Laverne Boos      | 997-5759     |
|                          | Sharon Johnson    |              |
| Cemetery Team            | Carey Bonn        | 997-7215     |
| Cemetery Team            | Laverne Boos      | 997-5759     |
| Feeding John             | Sandy Birdleough  | 998-4504     |
| Float Team               | Jennifer Helfrich | 998-5207     |
| Fishers for Christ       | Debbie Klaehn     | 997-7234     |
| Global Leadership Summit | Kim Gibbs         | 456-7299     |
| Health Care Team         | Carla Herbig      | 992-1865     |
| Holy Ghost Quilters      | Helen Usener      | 997-7945     |
| Holy Ghost Quilters      | Sharon Kott       | 406-580-5129 |
| Hospitality Team         | Kat Jacoby        | 210-391-4407 |
| Investment Team          | Lester Frantzen   | 997-4985     |
| Kindermost Team          | Donna Reese       | 210-355-6971 |
|                          | Tammy Staedtler   | 998-7031     |
| LWR Quilters             | Roslee Lochte     | 997-1536     |
| Landscape Team           | Gary & Lisa King  | 456-4463     |
| Local Missions           | J&L Christensen   | 309-361-3970 |
| NH Comm. Coord.          | Verdie Pezzaro    | 210-722-4754 |
| NH Devotions             | Windy Duecker     | 997-2983     |
| "P" Team                 | Donald Pressler   | 830-329-3603 |
| Passion of Christ        | M&D Akin          | 997-4630     |
| Property Team            | Greg Henricksen   | 990-8138     |
| Prayer Team              | Laverne Cuddy     | 456-0782     |
| "R" Team                 | Mary Beth Bauer   | 864-4201     |
| Resource Mgmt.           | Janie Trantham    | 990-9675     |
| Stewardship Team         | Jason Helfrich    | 998-7937     |
| Welcome Patrol           | Sandy Poole       | 997-9098     |
| Worship Decorating       | Yvonne Holleman   | 830-928-3662 |

### WORSHIP TEAMS:

|                         |                   |              |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Altar Guild Coord.      | Adela Wunderlich  | 456-1958     |
| Altar Guild Coord.      | Donna Rees        | 210-355-6971 |
| Communion Servers       | Corrine Jung      | 997-3310     |
| Disciple Team Leader    | Glenna Hartman    | 257-2469     |
| Disciple Team Leader    | Marjorie Otte     | 644-2655     |
| Disciple Team Leader    | Polly Zenner      | 997-5701     |
| Nursery Child Care      | Penny Ersch       | 997-9747     |
| Organist/Pianist Coord. | Bernice Basse     | 669-2380     |
| Readers Coord.          | Lois Weidenfeller | 997-8455     |
| Video Tech Coord.       | Linda Adams       | 889-3250     |

### CHOIRS:

|                 |                   |          |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Bell Choirs     | Deanne Moellering | 990-8410 |
| Sanctuary Choir | Deanne Moellering | 990-8410 |

### GROUPS:

|                      |                 |                |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Church Council Pres. | DeAnn Reyes     | 456-9380       |
| Men in Mission       | Harvey Hengst   | 997-9921       |
| Sunday School Supt.  | Leah Strackbein | (210) 535-3658 |
| Women of Faith       | Carol Feuge     | 997-3071       |
| Women of Faith       | Polly Zenner    | 997-5701       |
| Youth Group          | Molly Pluenneke |                |

# Merry Christmas

**POINSETTAS** to be used in decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season are now available for purchase through the church office. Cost for poinsettias: \$8.00 (Deadline is December 14th)

Given in honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 9:00am worship on Christmas Day, after the weekend services, or at the office the following week.

In lieu of actually buying a poinsettia, you may donate the price of a poinsettia as a gift to the Creek Street Property Loan in honor or memory of someone. (Contact the church office).




HOLY GHOST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 109 EAST SAN ANTONIO STREET  
 FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS 78624-4135  
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