



## New Year Traditions

We are about to embark on a new year. Years seem to come faster these days than they used to. Many people have New Year's traditions, and many people make New Year's resolutions which are promises to yourself that you would like to improve your life in some direction, maybe by giving up some bad habits, or taking on some new habits that will have a positive influence in your life. Most people give it a try for a while but then lapse back into old habits and patterns.

Growing up in Central Texas, our family tradition on New Year's Day, besides watching football games, was to eat a big bowl full of black-eyed peas. Mom always cooked up a big pot of black-eyed peas, with some bacon or ham and plenty of onions, and a pan of homemade cornbread to soak it all up.

The tradition was the more black-eyed peas you ate the better the luck you would have in the new year. Often we would count every black-eyed pea we ate, until we had eaten at least 365, one for every day of the new year ahead.

The funny thing is I don't remember eating black-eyed peas any other time except on New Year's Day. We ate plenty of Pinto beans, and green beans, and even a few lima beans (not my favorite), but only one time a year did we feast on a steaming bowl of black-eyed peas. I don't know if they brought us any more luck than usual, but we stuck to that tradition for many years.

Traditions are all fine and good, and New Year's traditions are no an exception. But what is the goal? What is the purpose? If the purpose is to improve your life or to have a positive influence on your actions or words or deeds, then that is commendable.

Might I suggest that, instead of black-eyes peas or other human traditions, we be encouraged to engage in some spiritual disciplines and make them a regular part of our lives? Could I make prayer a regular part of my daily diet? There are some great models for prayer available, for instance the A.C.T.S. model. A=Adoration, praising God for what God has done and has provided for us. C=Confession, coming before God on a daily basis confessing our sins and failures and asking for God's forgiveness and help in doing better. T=Thanksgiving, listing all the things that we are thankful for. And S=Supplication, praying for the needs of others.

Another spiritual discipline to start your year is to be in God's Word daily. Finding some quiet time in the morning or evening is helpful. I grab my Bible in the morning while my coffee is perking on the stove. You could start by reading through one of the Gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, or even the Psalms which are rich in their imagery. It is a great way to go deeper in your faith.

Other disciplines include connecting with a small group or a Bible study where you are in the Word on a regular basis, in fellowship with other believers. Regular worship is a great way to connect to others, or even finding a place to serve either at church or in the community. When you give a part of your time in service to others, it enriches your life.

If you still want to have your bowl of black-eyed peas, go right ahead, but add to it one of those spiritual disciplines, and it will have a positive influence on your life and the lives of others.

Blessings in this New Year!  
Pastor David





COUNCIL NOTES  
December 18, 2023

1. Pastor Steve opened with a devotion on forgiveness from the life of Nazi POW, Corrie Ten Boom.
2. New council persons introduced themselves: Valerie Bonn, Ken Messinger, and Chris Nevins.
3. Outgoing council persons were thanked for their service: Teresa Ganis, Craig Sander & Cheryl Sione.
4. 2024 council officers are: President - Ron Rickerhauser, Vice President - Nick Thompson, Treasurer - Hiram Lucius, and Secretary - Nancy Lochte.
5. Guest, David Bullion, chairperson of the Building Team, presented a report on the project progress and treasurer, Hiram Lucius, offered a financial report. The church has begun to incrementally draw on the loan from First United Bank. Up until now, the church's contributions have sustained the billing. The church still holds about \$400K in donations that can be applied.
6. A grant of \$125K was received from an anonymous foundation for the building program.
7. The Kinderneest Christmas program, Sunday School program, church to church walk & Christmas caroling event were all celebrated.
8. Pastor David reported on the Oromo Mission congregation in Houston.
9. Pastor Steve reported on the Lay Communion Visitation Program, which will begin in January. This group (in which eleven persons are involved) will assist in visiting and taking communion to homebound and nursing care persons in light of Pastor Alan Williams retirement.
10. A sound and lighting update for the church was given with the council calling for a special congregational meeting on January 21 to possibly approve funds.
11. A task force including Polly Zenner and Craig Sander will investigate signage for the HGLC campus.
12. The council retreat will be January 26-27 at Ebert Ranch in Harper.
13. The meeting ended at 9pm with Pastor Bobby closing the meeting with prayers for joys and concerns.

**The 2024 Church Council Officers** are Ron Rickerhauser (President), Nick Thompson (Vice President), Hiram Lucius (Treasurer), and Nancy Lochte (Secretary). Other members of the council include: Bruce Christian, Todd Weiss, Jeff Boyd, Chris Nevins, Ken Messinger, Valerie Bonn, Polly Zenner, and Laurie Bristol.

Please pray for your leaders!

**Many thanks** to the out-going council persons: Teresa Ganis, Cheryl Sione, and Craig Sanders

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:**

The church council has called for a special congregational meeting to be held on **Sunday, January 21** following the 10:30am worship. The purpose of the meeting is for the congregation to receive and potentially approve a sound & lighting bid for the church sanctuary as well as to allocate funds for the proposal. All HGLC voting members and interested persons are invited to attend.

**2023 HGLC Annual Reports**

are due to the church office by **Tuesday, January 16th**. All leaders of teams, groups organizations, and ministries are asked to turn in reports as well as financial statements that will be part of the annual report in February. Thank you!



**December 10th Congregational Meeting Results:**

The meeting was called to order by vice-president, Nick Thompson.

1. Fifty-five voting members were part of the meeting.
1. The budget of \$1.131M was approved.
2. Council nominees were elected: Nick Thompson (2nd term), Valerie Bonn, Ken Messinger, and Chris Nevins.
3. David Bullion, Building Team chairperson, presented an update on the program. Phase one is 55% complete and we will anticipate being back in the church some time in February.
5. Outgoing council persons were celebrated: Teresa Ganis, Cheryl Sione, and Craig Sander.
6. The Annual Report meeting will be Sunday, February 18.
7. Pastor Steve installed the new council persons.
8. The meeting ended at 12:20pm with the singing of "Joy to the World".

# Worship SCHEDULE

## WORSHIP IN JANUARY "Come, let us worship the Lord!" JANUARY WORSHIP THEMES



**Messages in January:** The sermon series for the next couple of months is titled "Epiphanies" as we explore various ways in which God made Himself known to people of faith in Bible times. How does He make Himself known today?

**Sat. & Sun., Jan. 6 & 7:** "Epiphanies: Jesus' Baptism" - When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove, and the Father spoke: "You are my Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased." In these few, short verses in Mark we will encounter the presence of the living, triune God! Please read ahead, and pray through our text for the weekend: Mark 1:4-15.

**Sat. & Sun., Jan. 13 & 14:** "Epiphanies: The Transfiguration" - Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, and there our Lord was transfigured before them. It was a tremendous revelation of the true nature of Jesus as the Son of God. Again we hear the Father speak, "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!" Please prayerfully read through our text for the day: Matthew 17:1-8.

**Sat. & Sun., Jan. 20 & 21:** Saul's becoming Paul is the story from Acts 9 as we walk through his dark experience by which the light of Christ is revealed to him. Can it be that some of our most difficult times can be a corridor to our understanding God's correction and direction for our lives? Holy Communion is served!

**Sat. & Sun., Jan. 27 & 28:** The epiphany of the week is the burning bush whereby God revealed Himself and His call for Moses to be the deliverer of the Israelite slaves in Egypt. Exploring "signs" is the subject matter of the week as we seek to discern God's voice in the midst of the many voices we hear in daily life.

### Praise Services in January, 2024

will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 10:30am.



**LENT '24** begins Wed., Feb. 14. This year's theme is "The Grand Plan" as the Sunday and mid-week services will take us from creation to the resurrection. Anticipate wrist bands, devotional booklets filled with faith stories, crosses to place in your yard, and Wednesday 11am & 6:30pm worships!

### Holy Communion in January:

Holy Communion in January will be on the weekends of the 13th & 14th and 27th & 28th.



**ALL worship services** including the midweek services are posted on the HGLC FaceBook and YouTube sites. You DO NOT have to be on FaceBook to watch the services.

### HGLC Radio Broadcast

Listen in to the Word! Church service can be heard either on KNAF 107.9FM or AM910 on Sun. at 10am.



### Christian Radio Station

Tune into FM 88.1—KLOVE to hear some great Christian lyrics and music. It's a great way to start your day in the morning or have it playing in the background all day long.

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### The January Special Offering

is designated for the Kindernest Teacher Appreciation Fund. This pocket provides funds that are used by the school board and director to uplift, encourage, and support our hard-working teachers! Surprise blessings for the staff might include a breakfast taco, a Starbucks treat, a shared giant cookie from HEB, etc. Such little things are actually BIG things for these women who give so much in this service ministry of our church! Appreciations are shared about every other month. Please use the small brown pew envelopes or indicate your intention in the memo or giving line! And please contribute above and beyond your regular tithes and offerings to the church programs.



**THE EPIPHANY TEA & COWBOY BREAKFAST**

have been suspended due to the fellowship hall space being needed for worship. Both events will be rescheduled for the spring. So anticipate and look forward to some great fellowship and feeding events!

*thank you*

*I would like to extend a thank you to the ladies who provided the funeral meal. They were so kind in furnishing refreshments after Rudy's funeral service to our friends and relatives. It was so appreciated. It is a beautiful service that our church makes available to our members. Hopefully it can be continued. Thank you again.*

**Prayer Requests may be sent anytime via text to the church cell phone at 830-383-0249.**

**Please note that this number is for *texting* prayer requests only.**

**Calls are not answered at this number. For phone requests, please call the church office at 830-997-2288.**

**SIMPLY GIVING**

Simply Giving is an electronic way of sharing your tithes and offerings with the church. It is sponsored by THRIVENT Financial Services and is free to you, the giver. If you'd like to set up an account whereby your weekly or monthly gifts are automatically transferred from your bank account to Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, please visit with June Woerner at 830-997-2288.

**One-Half of the 2024 Lenten Offering**

will be shared with the Good Samaritan Center this year! For the past several years HGLC has given away one-half of the midweek Lenten offering that is received between Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as well as any gifts that are given in Lent envelopes or designated on-line in the weekend offerings! This practice is a reflection of the great sacrifice that our Savior made for us as He journeyed to the cross for our sins.

Therefore, aligning with His love for us in giving Himself away, in addition to the many areas in which HGLC provides benevolence offerings outside our church ministries, we too make this small "sacrifice" in Christ's name. The typical one-half amount generated each Lenten year to bless others as HGLC has been blessed amounts to about ten-thousand dollars. The other half of the Lent offerings goes to support the church ministry budget.

With the growing concerns in health care costs, the Stewardship Team recommended to the Church Council, and the Church Council now recommends to the congregation that we give this year's one-half of the Lenten offering to the Good Samaritan Center for the families in our community who are in need and can benefit from free, subsidized, or more affordable care. Thank you for your sharing beyond the local church!



**The SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST BAR**

is a big hit! A freshly-made meal is created in the HGLC commercial kitchen from 8:30-9:10am in the Alpha Room (small room) of the Fellowship Hall. Join the fellowship and wonderful food with others at church for a come-and-go breakfast opportunity.

**The Holy Ghost Lutheran Church office will be closed on Christmas Day. and New Year's Day.**







**HOLY GHOST LUTHERAN  
WOMEN OF FAITH**

**EPIPHANY TEA** - The Epiphany Tea will be held on April 14, 2024, at 9:00am at the Fellowship Hall.

We are so thankful to each of you for sharing your fabric. It has all been put to use to sew quilt tops. It is always amazing to see the beautiful tops that come together from the different fabrics. If you have any to offer, please call Polly Zenner at 830.997.5701 or bring it by the church office. If you are interested in helping the LWR quilters, they meet Monday and Tuesday from 9:00am to noon. The hand quilters meet at various times, usually on Monday and Tuesday.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** - When all the current quilters, whether hand quilters or LWR quilters, opt out, who will be available to take their place? None of us are ready to quit, but we never know what God's plans are. New faces would be very welcome!

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Jan. 8	Evening Guild Meeting	6:00pm	Fellowship Hall
Jan. 11	Lydia Circle Meeting	9:30am	Fellowship Hall
Jan. 11	Katherine Luther Circle	1:00pm	Fellowship Hall
Mar. 1	World Day of Prayer	10:00am	Bethany Lutheran
Apr. 14	Epiphany Tea	9:00am	Fellowship Hall



April 20, 2024: Southwest Texas NALC Women of Faith Gathering at Three Rivers. More info to follow.

*The "Spring Fling Tea" will be held on April 14th. This will replace the Epiphany Tea/Cowboy Breakfast. Contact Sue Gustin if you have any questions. 830-456-5934*

**The FBG Food Pantry** is in need of the following basics:

sugar, flour, peanut butter, canned meat, soup, cereal, canned fruit, and canned vegetables.



You may take your donations directly to the pantry at 701 Mustang St., drop it off at the church office, or leave it on the table in the Fellowship Hall worship space!

**Happy New Year to our Holy Ghost family!**

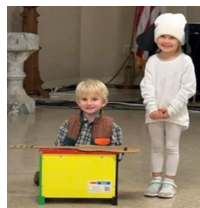
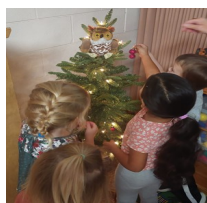
December was a busy month full of fun activities, Christmas songs, and learning about the true reason for the season of Christmas! This was such a fun time for our students and teachers. On December 7<sup>th</sup> we had our Leapfrog and Pre-K Christmas program at the HGLC Fellowship Hall. Thank you to everyone who attended, including Ms. Katy Hofmann's youth choir! We were so incredibly proud of our students old and new!



Before Christmas break, we enjoyed our annual student book exchange, a Christmas party, and ended in pajamas for Polar Express day! What a special time to spend with littles!

As we welcome 2024, our school has so much to be thankful for. We appreciate the constant support and love we receive within this community and look forward to all the warm moments the new year will bring us! Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2024!

In His service,  
Annisa Alonzo



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6am - Worship</p> <p>9:15am - Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Worship: KNAF 9:10am/107.9FM</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p> <p>9pm - New Year's Eve Worship</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>4pm - Youth Choir</p> <p>6pm - Evening Guild</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>5:30pm - Widows' Light</p> <p>5:45pm - Grace Notes</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>8pm - WYWP</p>	<p>7am - Men's Community Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - AA</p> <p>8pm - AA</p>		<p>6pm - Worship</p>
<p>8am - Worship</p> <p>8:30am - Breakfast Bar</p> <p>9:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Worship: KNAF 9:10am/107.9FM</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>4pm - Youth Choir</p> <p>6pm - Evening Guild</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>8am - Band of Brothers</p> <p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>9:55am - KNEST Devo.</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>5:30pm - Gospel of Matthew Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - Women's Evening Bible Study:</p>	<p>6:30am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>10am - Caregiver's Support</p> <p>12pm - Apostles Creed Series</p> <p>4pm - After School Club</p> <p>5:30pm - Cancer Group Mtg. Alpha Rm</p> <p>5:30pm - Widow's Light</p> <p>5:45pm - Grace Notes</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>8pm - WYWP</p>	<p>7am - Men's Community Bible Study</p> <p>9:30am - Lydia Circle</p> <p>1pm - Kath. Luther Circle</p> <p>5:15pm - Investment Team Mtg.</p> <p>6pm - AA</p> <p>8pm - AA</p>		<p>9pm - Worship Comm</p>
<p>8am - Worship Comm</p> <p>8:30am - Breakfast Bar</p> <p>9:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Worship: KNAF 9:10am/107.9FM</p> <p>10:30am - Worship Comm</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>6pm - Men In Mission</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>ARTIST RESOURCES CLUB</p> <p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>9:55am - KNEST Devo.</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>5:30pm - Gospel of Matthew Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - Lay Min. Mtg.</p>	<p>11:30am - Ladies Lunch Study</p> <p>12pm - Apostles Creed Series</p> <p>4pm - After School Club</p> <p>5:30pm - God Squad Small Group</p> <p>5:45pm - Grace Notes</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>8pm - WYWP</p>	<p>7am - Men's Community Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - AA</p> <p>8pm - AA</p>	<p>11:30am - Holy Mark Cardmakers:</p>	<p>9pm - Worship</p>
<p>8am - Worship</p> <p>8:30am - Breakfast Bar</p> <p>9:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Worship: KNAF 9:10am/107.9FM</p> <p>10:30am - Worship (Praise)</p> <p>11:30am - Special Cong. Mtg.</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>4pm - Youth Choir</p> <p>6pm - Alan Williams Small Group</p> <p>6pm - Church Council</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>9:55am - KNEST Devo.</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>5:30pm - Gospel of Matthew Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - Women's Evening Bible Study:</p>	<p>12pm - Apostles Creed Series</p> <p>4pm - After School Club</p> <p>5:30pm - Widow's Light</p> <p>5:45pm - Grace Notes</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>8pm - WYWP</p>	<p>7am - Men's Community Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - AA</p> <p>6pm - Game Night</p> <p>8pm - AA</p>	<p>6:30pm - Friday Night Live</p>	<p>9pm - Worship Comm</p>
<p>Reading John</p> <p>8am - Worship Comm</p> <p>8:30am - Breakfast Bar</p> <p>9:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Worship: KNAF 9:10am/107.9FM</p> <p>10:30am - Worship Comm/Praise</p> <p>11:30am - Mother-Son Bowling</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>4pm - Youth Choir</p> <p>6:30pm - AA</p>	<p>9am - LWR Quilters</p> <p>9:55am - KNEST Devo.</p> <p>1pm - HG Quilters</p> <p>5:30pm - Gospel of Matthew Bible Study</p>	<p>11:30am - Ladies Lunch Study</p> <p>12pm - Apostles Creed Series</p> <p>4pm - After School Club</p> <p>5pm - CYF Min. Mtg.</p> <p>5:45pm - Grace Notes</p> <p>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>8pm - WYWP</p>	<p>7am - Men's Community Bible Study</p> <p>6pm - AA</p> <p>8pm - AA</p>		<p>9pm - Worship</p>

# JANUARY MINISTRY

Date	Time	Council Members	Disciple Teams	Readers	Communion Assistants	Video Techs	Radio Broadcast Recorders	Sound Board Volunteers
Jan. 6	6:00pm	Ron Nancy	Butch & Teresa Weigenhausen	Rayann Sagebiel		Johnna Alberthal		
Jan. 7	8:00am	Todd Nancy	Jerrell & Helen Usener Karen Grona	Doyle Moellering		McKenzie Moellering	Ronnie Ersch	Nicole Robertson
Jan 7	10:30am	Nick Teresa	Bill & Susan Tribble Sheridan Stringer	Nick Thompson		Paul Seidensticker		
Jan 13	6:00pm	Ron Nancy	Tim & Kim Terry Mark & Mickey Koennecke	Nancy Sagebiel	Self-serve	Kimberly Bauer		
Jan 14	8:00am	Todd Nancy	Sharon Turek, Helen Usener Karen Grona	Mandy Herber	Self-serve	Megan Blizzard	Chris Bauer	Nicole Robertson
Jan 14	10:30am	Nick Teresa	Mackey Looney Nancy, Hannah & Rayann Sagebiel	Bryan Moellering	Self-serve	Linda Adams		
Jan 20	6:00pm	Ron Nancy	Francis & Helen Birck	Hannah Sagebiel		Johnna Alberthal		
Jan 21	8:00am	Todd Nancy	Mike & Susan McMahon Helen Usener	Pastor		Megan Blizzard	Carey Bonn	Nicole Robertson
Jan 21	10:30am	Nick Teresa	Peter & Sheridan Stringer Becky Shirley, Vicky Lucius	Kathy Boos		Linda Adams		
Jan 27	6:00pm	Ron Nancy	Francis & Helen Birck John Weaver	Gina Jenschke	Self-serve	Kimberly Bauer		
Jan 28	8:00am	Todd Nancy	Ben Priem Gordon & Karen Grona, Helen Usener	Pastor	Self-serve	Luke Moellering	Paul Unger	Nicole Robertson
Jan 28	10:30pm	Nick Teresa	Jeremy & Emily Berardi Emberlynn & Brylea Berardi	Karen Lochte	Self-serve	Paul Seidensticker		

## CONFIRMATION

**Acolytes:**  
 Saturday 6:00pm - Rayann Sagebiel, Luke Damuth  
 Sunday 8:00am - Davis Lochte, Brady Bonn, Matthew Moellering  
 Sunday 10:30am - Bella Stotz, Meredith Stevens



**ALTAR GUILD:**

<u>January:</u>	Lisa Olfers	Sandra Poole
	Lisa Bullion	Judy Nardini
	Sherry Durst	
	<b>Robes:</b>	<b>Karen Grona</b>
<u>February:</u>	Donna Rees	Linda Kneese
	Debra Duecker	Teresa Schneider
	<b>Robes:</b>	<b>Karen Grona</b>

**DECEMBER PASTORAL ACTS**

**Funerals:** Virginia Clark 12/18/23

**Weddings:** Derrick Loth & Kayla Peters 12/9/23

**WOMEN OF FAITH STUDY LEADERS:**

<u>Circles</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Evening Guild	Pastor	Helen Usener
Lydia Circle	Pastor	Emmie Burrer
Katherine Luther	Pastor	Polly Zenner

*In our prayers, "We rejoice with those who rejoice, and we mourn with those who mourn." (Romans 12:15)*

**Hospitalizations:**

*Patsy Hahne  
Florence Eckert  
Bryan Moellering  
John Williams  
Kermit Feuge*

**Sympathies to the Families of:**

*Virginia Clark*

**Hospice List:**

*Stanley Feller  
Lynette Kramer  
Darlene St. Clair*



**NURSING HOME COMMUNION: JAN - Bethany**

First Wednesdays

01/03/24	Knopp Assisted Living	9:30 am
01/03/24	Knopp #2	10:30 am

First Thursdays

01/04/24	Heritage Place	9:30 am
01/04/24	Windcrest	10:30 am

Second Wednesdays

01/10/24	Villages of Windcrest	9:45 am
01/10/24	Fredericksburg NH	10:45 am

Second Thursdays

01/11/24	Knopp Retirement Center	9:30 am
01/11/24	Knopp #1	10:30 am



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

01/05/1931	JoAnn Krauskopf
01/07/1928	Lillyann Feller
01/10/1931	Emma Hirschfield

**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:**

01/06/1973 Steve & Karen Juenke



If we missed your 90+ birthday or 50+ anniversary, please call the church office so that we can update our records, 830-997-2288.



**Contact the Church Office** when you or a family member are in the hospital. Due to current HIPPA laws, non-family members no longer have access of hospital records to know who is an inpatient. So please call the church office if a visit by one of the pastors is desired.





CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - "STRONGER TOGETHER"

Find social and emotional support with our group which is open to the community and surrounding areas. We offer encouragement, support, devotions, discussions, prayers, and fellowship to cancer survivors and thrivers as well as their caregivers and family. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

For more information please contact:

Iris Burrer @ 850-456-5711 or Karen Dolezal @ 512-517-3180

Band of Brothers



Happy New Year! We will be getting the Band (of Brothers) back together on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, from 8:00 – 11:00 am. If you are a retired man or someone with a flexible schedule, join us for food, fellowship, and working on various projects around the church campus. For more info or to RSVP, please contact the church office or Doyle Moellering at 830/456-1349. All men are welcome!

Ladies' Lunch Study



Ladies of all ages are invited to join us for fellowship and study, typically every-other Wednesday at noon in the Fellowship Hall. This month we will meet on January 17th and 31st, as we start a study of The Chosen, Season 3. Feel free to bring your lunch. Contact Kim Gibbs at 830-456-7299 for more information.

Widow's Might

Widows who are seeking direction, purpose, and hope in this season of life are invited to attend this group that typically meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 5:30pm. Location to be determined. Our January meeting dates are the 10th and 24th. For more information, contact Rhonda Eckert Simpson at 830-456-4617.

SMALL GROUP CORNER!



One of the finest small group studies is "Experiencing God" by Henry and Richard Blackaby and Claude King. In this profound and Biblically-grounded study, we are led through ways to discern the will of God in our lives together and as individuals. We have materials available in our small group library (located in the church office). Please stop by and prayerfully consider sharing this study with your small group in 2024.

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"



Happy New Year, Holy Ghost! I pray that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and that 2024 is a blessed time for you and your families.

I have never been one for New Year's resolutions, mainly because I often times find myself failing before I really start. I can be a bit of a perfectionist and an "all or nothing" type thinker. Often times I catch myself thinking that if I can't get something perfect the first time I try then it must not be worth doing. What a wildly incorrect notion - especially when I consider that perfection is not a skillset I will ever be able to achieve! After all I am not God! I am a sinner, I am not enough and can never be enough. Thank God for that! What a relief it is to know that my salvation is not dependent on my ability to be perfect enough. If you find yourself wrestling with "enough-ness" in this new year (or maybe it's been year after year for a while now), please rest in the truth of God's mercy and grace. Maybe this is the year you (and I) rely more on the perfection of Christ rather than our own.

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

THANK YOU to Patsy Stevens for sharing this beautiful, traditional piece with me! We had the fun opportunity to sing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" as a quartet in 2023, and I just had to bring it along for the full choir to lend their voices to it as well. The four-part harmony works together to create a complex sounding musical treat that has become a favorite benediction for many congregations. I hope it will be a favorite for Holy Ghost as well. Enjoy!

"Star of Promise, Light of Glory"

What a great piece! I am a huge fan of folk music, and "Star of Promise, Light of Glory" uses the great Sacred Harp tune "Warrenton" in such a catchy way. If you listen closely, you'll notice some more familiar tunes and lyrics as the piece progresses. I'm excited for you all to hear the beautiful women's ensemble section as well as the fun, bouncy accompaniment. It is sure to be a delightful addition to the Advent, Christmas, and even Epiphany seasons. I hope you enjoy!

In Christ's love, ~ Katie

The HolyMark Cardmakers

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 19th. We'll eat together at Campo Azul at 11:30am and gather for card-making in the Fellowship Hall at about 12:30pm.

For questions, call Pastor Jan Unger at 512-760-0093.



## From the R Team - Read your Bible daily!

2024 - a new year yet to be discovered. One thing we do know is that it starts with a new day on January 1st and a new day every day after that. And each new day brings us new mercies! Happy New Year from the R Team!

Lamentations 3:22-23	2 Corinthians 4:16	Jeremiah 29:11
Ecclesiastes 3:11	Psalms 91:1-16	2 Peter 3:18
Psalms 30:5	Isaiah 43:18-19	Proverbs 3:5-6
1 Peter 1:3	Ephesians 4:22-24	Philippians 3:13-14
	Matthew 7:7	



## Women's Evening Bible Study

The Women's Evening Bible Study will begin a new book on Tuesday, January 9. We will study Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent by Beth Moore.

Study guides are available at Amazon or your favorite online Christian bookstore. Meeting dates are January 9 & 23, February 6 & 20, March 5 & 19, and April 2 at 6:00pm in the Holy Ghost Youth Room. Contact Karen Nevins 830-992-9424 for more information.

## Bible Study — Gospel of Matthew

Pastor David will start a Bible study in the new year on Tuesday evenings on the Gospel of Matthew. We will start January 9 and go through May 21, taking one or two chapters a week. We will meet at 5:30 each Tuesday, and each class should last approximately one hour and fifteen minutes.

The Gospel of Matthew is the first Gospel in the New Testament, which was written to a largely Jewish background audience to share the story of Jesus Christ and all that God sent Jesus to accomplish. Please email or call the office if you are interested in being part of the class. If you can't make every session, that is understandable; come when you can, but please give us an indication if you'd like to attend.

## APOSTLES' CREED COURSE Wednesdays at Noon

January 10<sup>th</sup> through February 7<sup>th</sup> Pastor Steve will lead a five-week course on the Apostles' Creed. The course will meet in the Fellowship Hall from 12:00-1:00 pm and will be broadcast on Zoom and recorded for YouTube (if you miss the class). Sign up as soon as possible by contacting Pastor Steve or the church office.

## AA: Alcoholics Anonymous

Three support groups meet at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church: one on Mondays at 5:30pm and the others on Thursdays at 6pm & 8pm in the Quilt House by the church. HGLC supports those in recovery!

## Adult Class Opportunities

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

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

## Sunday Morning Opportunities

### Adult Sunday School choices!

Join in at 9:15-10:15am!  
The coffee is on us!

The breakfast bar is available 8:30-9:15am.

Studying God's Word together is where we grow with others in our faith.

## Holy Ghost Family and Adult Bible Class

There are currently three adult Sunday School classes. Check out the options below. We look forward to seeing you soon in an adult Bible class at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall.

**1. PASTOR'S CLASS** - Dive into St. Paul's letter to the Colossians with Pastor Steve for six weeks on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30am (right after breakfast bar). Part of the stunning beauty of this letter is that we learn wonderful truths about Jesus including: 1) By looking at Jesus we discover who God is. 2) Jesus holds together the old world and the new and 3) Jesus is the blueprint of what it means to be truly human. Hope you can make it and enjoy God's Word with us each week!

**2. FAITH THAT PLEASES GOD** - Norm Nevins and Jim Paige lead this class which meets in the parsonage by the church.

**3. BIBLE DISCUSSIONS CLASS** - This meets upstairs in the church office and is led by Nick Thompson.



Game Night is scheduled for  
Thur., January 25th at 6:00 pm.



## Feeding John

Feeding John this month  
will be on **Sunday, January 28th.**



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

**The Ministers, the Congregation**

Bobby Vitek, Pastor  
David Priem, Pastor  
Steve Qualben, Pastor

Clint Pluenneke, Pastor of Youth & Family Ministries  
Daniel Hofmann, Minister of Children & Young Families

Shanese Lochte, Office Manager  
Blake Neffendorf, Office Assistant  
Kandice Wadsworth, Office Assistant  
Myrna Olivarez, Office Assistant  
June Woerner, Finance Secretary  
Stephanie Marshall, Back-up Finance Secretary  
Pastor Alan Williams, Visitation Minister  
Pastor Jan Unger, Visitation Minister  
Marti Jennings, Ministry Facilitator  
Annisa Alonzo, Kinderneest Preschool Director  
Karen Henriksen, Kinderneest Finance Secretary  
Jim Parker, Maintenance Technician  
Carol Brinkmann, Fellowship Hall Supervisor  
Daniel Hofmann, Wedding Director

**Church Office Hours & Contact Info:**

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday: Office Closed

Telephone: 830-997-2288 / Fax: 830-997-7869

Address: 109 East San Antonio Street, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Email: [holyghost@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:holyghost@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)

Website: [www.holyghostfbg.org](http://www.holyghostfbg.org)

Bobby Vitek - [pastorbv@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:pastorbv@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)  
David Priem - [pastorbp@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:pastorbp@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)  
Clint Pluenneke - [clintp@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:clintp@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)  
Steve Qualben - [pastorsq@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:pastorsq@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)  
Daniel Hofmann - [danielh@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:danielh@holyghostfbg.onmicrosoft.com)

Kinderneest Montessori Preschool  
113 East San Antonio Street  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624  
Telephone: 830-997-8939



**BEWARE of SCAMS!**

Don't fall for a bogus text or email that may appear to be from one of the pastors asking you to wire money or purchase gift cards for the pastor on behalf of a person/family that they may be ministering to! It's from the DEVIL! The pastors will never send such a communication and, if in doubt, please contact them or the church office to verify it before you are SCAMMED!

**MINISTRY TEAMS:**

Barnabas Team	Yvonne Fox	830-998-4600
Building Committee	David Bullion	830-998-1889
"C" Team Contact	Laverne Boos	830-739-4263
"C" Team Contact	Sharon Johnson	512-755-1801
Cancer Support Group	Iris Burrer	830-456-5711
Cancer Support Group	Karen Dolezal	512-517-3180
Cemetery Team	Alan Saenger	830-992-8564
Cemetery Team	Susan Stroecher	830-456-3143
Christmas Day Dinner	Denise Usener	830-456-1742
Feeding John	Sandy Birdlebough	830-998-4504
Float Team	Bob Jennings	830-992-7049
Fishers for Christ	Debbie Klachn	830-456-1650
Global Leadership Summit	Amy Montgomery	210-844-1987
Health Care Team	Vacant	
Holy Ghost Quilters	Helen Usener	830-992-9473
Holy Ghost Quilters	Sharon Kott	406-580-5129
Hospitality Team	Kat Jacoby	210-391-4407
Investment Team	Allen Ersch	830-889-2471
Kinderneest Team	Donna Rees	210-355-6971
Kinderneest Team	Shayna Thompson	830-992-1673
Kitchen Team	Laverne Boos	830-739-4263
Kitchen Team	Judy Nardini	361-774-3219
LWR Quilters	Roslee Lochte	830-992-8820
NH Comm. Coord.	Yvonne Fox	830-998-4600
NH Devotions	Irene Crutcher	830-997-7072
"P" Team	Donald Pressler	830-329-3603
Passion of Christ	(currently vacant)	
Property Team	Seth Moellering	830-456-1304
Praise Team Task Force	Karen Nevins	830-992-9424
Prayer Team	Laverne Cuddy	830-456-0782
"R" Team	Mary Beth Bauer	830-329-0344
Resource Management	Janie Trantham	830-990-9675
Small Group Vol.	Kim Gibbs	830-456-7299
Stewardship Team	Kathy Boos	830-456-7218
Tele-Buddy Ministry	Marti Jennings	830-992-7049
Worship Decorating	Rhonda Simpson	830-456-4617

**WORSHIP TEAMS:**

Altar Guild Coord.	Virginia Fuege	830-998-7857
Altar Guild Coord.	Donna Rees	210-355-6971
Communion Servers	Corrine Jung	830-889-8640
Disciple Team Leader	Glenna Hartman	361-739-5637
Disciple Team Leader	Marjorie Otte	830-992-0418
Disciple Team Leader	Polly Zenner	830-889-5701
Organist/Pianist Coord.	Bernice Basse	512-569-1643
Readers Coord.	Joyce Thiele	830-456-1617
Sound Coord.	Jacob Harrington	512-827-1564
Sound Coord.	Nicole Robertson	830-307-4757
Video Tech Coord.	Linda Adams	830-889-3250

**CHOIRS:**

Bell Choir	Joyce Priem	830-456-1226
Sanctuary Choir	Katie Hofmann	830-383-4668
Youth Choir	Katie Hofmann	830-383-4668

**GROUPS:**

Church Council Pres.	Ron Rickerhauser	830-992-9597
Men in Mission	Harvey Hengst	830-456-7663
Sunday School Supt.	Carrie Roemer	830-456-4461
Band of Brothers	Doyle Moellering	830-456-1349
Women of Faith	Carol Feuge	830-285-1301
Women of Faith	Polly Zenner	830-889-5701
Youth Group	Reid Nevins	830-997-2288

**CONTACT INFO NOTE**

If your address, email, or cell phone information changes, please let the church office know, 830-997-2288.





# HOLY GHOST KIDS CORNER

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me.'" -Matthew 19:14

## ***contact***

Daniel Hofmann  
Children's Minister  
830-997-2288  
danielh@holyyghostfbg.  
onmicrosoft.com

## ***as always***

We offer Sunday School  
for all ages! Join us at 9:15!

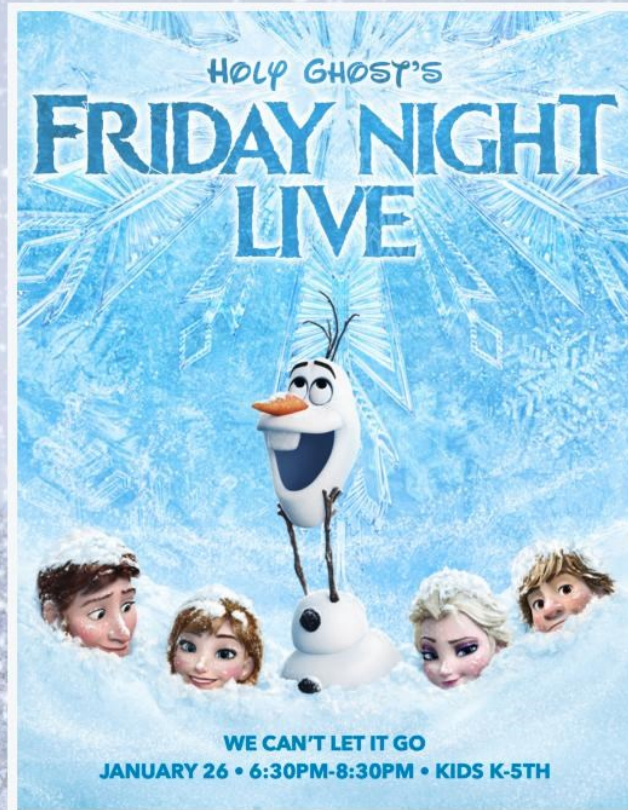
## ***upcoming***

- Father/Daughter Dance: Feb 10
- Burning of the Ashes: Feb 11
- Pancake Supper: Feb 13
- Ash Wednesday: Feb 14

## ***for families this month***

Let's talk about New Year  
resolutions!

- What is a "resolution"?
- Look up these verses:
  - Psalm 51:10-11
  - Colossians 3:14-15
  - Jeremiah 29:11
- What kind of changes  
does God ask us to make?
- What can you change  
this year to be a stronger  
Christian?
- Talk about this with your  
family.





*Lord, hear our prayer*

The things on our prayer board right now:

• **OUR GIFTS**

We are blessed to be blessings! We thank God for the opportunity to share the gifts He has given us!

• **NEW BEGINNINGS**

Just like every new year brings new life, God's grace gives us a clean heart when we ask for His forgiveness.

• **OUR WORLD**

There are tough times happening all over God's earth right now. We pray that He covers those who are hurting with His love.

What else can you pray for this month?

# CAMP CHRYSLIS

## JUNE 16-21, 2024

### REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 3! 2ND - 5TH GRADERS WELCOME!

To get your spot reserved, you'll need to visit  
[crosstrails.campbrainregistration.com](http://crosstrails.campbrainregistration.com).

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK "PART OF A GROUP RESERVATION"  
AND LIST HOLY GHOST AS YOUR CHURCH.  
THIS WILL ENSURE YOU ARE NOT CHARGED AT THE END  
OF THE PROCESS.**

You'll also need to bring a \$175 deposit to the church office. Checks payable to HGLC.  
Any questions? Call Daniel at 830-997-2288.

*NGIC Youth Choir  
learning the Beatitudes  
through music*

Matthew 5:6  
"Blessed are those who  
hunger and thirst for  
righteousness, for they  
will be satisfied"

*Road Move! Micah 6:8  
Sing with us! #184 "It is Well  
with My Soul"*

SUNDAY SCHOOL? MORE LIKE

# SUNDAYS COOL!



KIDS PreK-5TH CAN  
JOIN US AT 9:15AM  
IN THE KINDERNEST  
BUILDING.

WE HAVE MORE FUN  
WHEN YOU'RE HERE!



# Youth Group News & Family Matters

January 2024

+HOLY GHOST LUTHERAN CHURCH+

January 2024

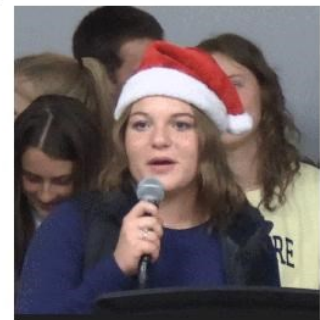
**New Year!?! Psalm 96:1 "Oh sing to the Lord a new song!"**



**Sr High Wednesday Youth Worship & Praise @ 8pm**

## **Christmas Mexico Mission Bins & Bins of Blessings!**

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thanks to everyone who donated gifts for the families of La Union. La Union is on the other side of Big Bend, and it has no running water or electricity except for generators and solar panels. This collection of bins filled with Christmas presents would not be possible without the great generosity of our congregation. Our mission group of youth and adults will deliver these bins of blessings December 27-30.**



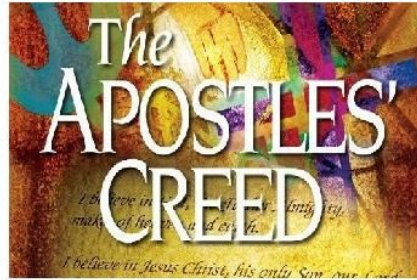
*Rylie Youth Group VP!*





## Confirmation Schedule

- Jan 7 Group Sunday School in Youth Room
- Jan 14 The Apostles' Creed 1<sup>st</sup> Article
- Jan 21 The Apostles' Creed 2<sup>nd</sup> Article
- Jan 28 The Apostles' Creed 3<sup>rd</sup> Article



## Acolyting Schedule

### Sunday 10:30 AM

Bella Stotz, Meredith Stevens

### Sunday 8:00 AM

Davis Lochte, Brady Bonn, Matthew Moellering

### Saturday 6:00 PM

Rayann Sagebiel, Luke Darmuth



**Sr High Bible Study**  
**Sundays 9:15 AM**  
**Kindernest Building**  
**"LET'S GROW!"**

## Summer Church Camp Registration

### Sr High Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp ONLINE Registration July 21-27, 2024

Current 8th-11th Grades. Registration for Texas residents opens Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, however don't wait! Register online NOW to go on waiting list because spots are very limited! Visit [rtl.campbrainregistration.com](http://rtl.campbrainregistration.com) or [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org) for more info.



## Jr High Camp Chrysalis

**June 16-21, 2024 6th-7th Graders Extreme Adventurers!**

**Registration opens January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

To get your spot reserved, you'll need to visit [crosstrails.campbrainregistration.com](http://crosstrails.campbrainregistration.com)

Make sure to check "part of a group reservation" and list Holy Ghost as your church. This will ensure you are not charged at the end of the process. You'll also need to bring a \$175 deposit to the church office. Checks payable to HGLC. Any questions? Call Daniel at 830-997-2288.



Christmas Eve Cookie ©

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 109 EAST SAN ANTONIO STREET  
 FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS 78624-4135



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## Attendance at a Glance

<b>JANUARY</b>		<b>APRIL</b>	
2023 In Person:	361	2023 In Person:	421
2023 On-line Views:	211	2023 On-line Views:	199
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	277	2022 In Person:	253
2022 On-line Views:	211	2022 On-line Views:	187
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		<b>MAY</b>	
2023 In Person:	326	2023 In Person:	337
2023 On-line Views:	163	2023 On-line Views:	214
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	335	2022 In Person:	320
2022 On-line Views:	189	2022 On-line Views:	155
<b>MARCH</b>		<b>JUNE</b>	
2023 In Person:	335	2023 In Person:	293
2023 On-line Views:	143	2023 On-line Views:	164
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	326	2022 In Person:	300
2022 On-line Views:	50	2022 On-line Views:	201
<b>JULY</b>		<b>OCTOBER</b>	
2023 In Person:	293	2023 In Person:	293
2023 On-line Views:	182	2023 On-line Views:	157
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	323	2022 In Person:	331
2022 On-line Views:	209	2022 On-line Views:	244
<b>AUGUST</b>		<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
2023 In Person:	326	2023 In Person:	295
2023 On-line Views:	181	2023 On-line Views:	190
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	353	2022 In Person:	324
2022 On-line Views:	198	2022 On-line Views:	190
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		<b>DECEMBER</b>	
2023 In Person:	269	2023 In Person: Will report next month	
2023 On-line Views:	140	2023 On-line Views: Will report next month	
+++++		+++++	
2022 In Person:	341	2022 In Person:	354
2022 On-line Views:	194	2022 On-line Views:	238

