



The Spirit

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church

December 2025

Being & Making Disciples

For unto us a Child
is born, unto us
a Son is given
Isaiah 9:6



Being Prepared for What is to Come

As we prepare to celebrate and remember our Savior's birth, I think of all that took place with the angel Gabriel appearing to the virgin Mary and relating to her what would take place, and how that one event would forever change the world.

In Luke 1:30-33 we hear these words: *"And the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.' ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

The first words we hear are what we often hear when God is fixing to do something important. God tells us, *"Do not be afraid."* Don't fear! Fear is often our first reaction. If I had been Mary, and an angel had appeared to me, let's be honest, I would be afraid. When God appears, there is usually something that God would like you to do. It's like when you get that phone call from the pastor, and you know he is fixing to ask you to do something.

No doubt we need to think and pray and weigh those decisions, because what we are being asked to do is something that will impact our lives, sometimes in a small way, and sometimes in a more significant way. It means making a commitment, and following through, and if a person truly wants to honor God, then it also means doing your very best that you are capable of doing to serve God and complete the task at hand.

Put yourself in Mary's shoes. God says, "I want you to bear my only begotten Son, and name Him Jesus." Mary did pause, not because she ever considered saying "no," but because she wasn't quite sure how it would be possible since she was a virgin. If we were to ponder that for a moment, we would realize that this is the same God who spoke, and the world—the universe, came into being. The same God who took dirt and formed it into a person and breathed the breath of life into its nostrils. This is not out of the realm of possibility for God.

As we reflect on this Bible narrative today, we know the impact this one moment has had on all of human history. The one who came to save the world was born—the very Son of God. Jesus would go on to teach us many valuable truths, to challenge our beliefs, to impact the lives of many people with healing and bring hope. Ultimately Jesus would go to the cross and die for all of humanity, so that our sins might be forgiven, and we have the promise of eternal life with God.

As we move toward Christmas, may we come to know and believe in the one who was born among us, full of grace and truth, so that we might have our fears relieved, and trust in God's promises, and presence, and the power God has to impact our lives in a significant way.

A blessed Christmas to all,
Pastor David



Christmas Schedule

December 5, 6, & 7 Nativity Display in the Fellowship Hall

December 14 @ 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program

December 14 @ 7:00 p.m. African Children's Choir Concert in church

December 16 @ 6:00 p.m. Church to Church Walk, starts at Zion, ends at St. Mary's

December 24 @ 3, 5, & 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services

December 25 @ 10 a.m. Christmas Day Worship

December 25 @ 11 a.m. Christmas Dinner for the Community in the Fellowship Hall

SIGN UP to Serve and/or Eat at the Christmas Day Dinner

which will follow the 10:00 a.m. service on Thursday Dec. 25th in the Fellowship Hall. This homecooked meal is for anyone who would like to attend, is free, just like the gift of Jesus, and is especially for those who may find themselves without family for the holidays!

PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE by Thursday, Dec. 18th.



POINSETTIAS to be used in decorating the church for the Christmas season are now available for purchase through the church office.

Cost for each poinsettia: \$13.00 (**Deadline is December 11th.**)

Given in honor of:

Given in memory of :

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 10:00 a.m. 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 Capital Campaign.

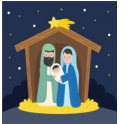
FISHERS FOR CHRIST ANNUAL NATIVITY SET DISPLAY

The Christmas season is approaching and the Fishers for Christ Team is asking the congregation to consider offering nativity sets for display for this annual event. Nativity sets will be on display **Friday, December 5th through Sunday, December 7th.** We ask that you set up your nativity sets on Thursday, December 4th and pick them up on Sunday, December 7th after 1:15 p.m. We will continue the angels display as well. Assistance will be available for anyone who needs help setting up a display. Table space must be reserved for your displays. There will be inserts in the bulletin to use for reserving table space as well as other volunteer needs.

A lot of work goes into this event, and the Fishers for Christ Team is appreciative of any assistance offered. On December 3rd we will need help moving tables and chairs. On December 4th we will decorate tables and put up the lights and everything else that is needed for preparation for the Nativity display. We also appreciate any help in monitoring the sets during the times they will be on display.

After the event we need help putting everything back in its place in the fellowship hall. Please consider helping with that task. For any questions or to volunteer, please contact Debbie Klaehn at 830-997-7234 or 830-456-1650, or contact the church office.

Thank you!
The Fishers for Christ Team



Church to Church Walk

The Annual Church to Church Walk will take place, **Tuesday, December 16 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** The walk will start at Zion Lutheran, continue on to Bethany Lutheran, then to Holy Ghost Lutheran, and end at St. Mary's. At each stop there will be a brief devotion along with music provided by various choirs throughout the community. It is a great community event as we come together to celebrate our unity in Christ during this season leading up to Christmas.

ATTENTION HG SCRIPTURE READERS!!!

Beginning next year (2026) we will use "SignUpGenius" for scheduling our Scripture readers. Stay tuned for sign up details!

New readers are always welcome!



COUNCIL NOTES

November 17, 2025

1. Pizza, salad, and desserts were provided to benefit Kindernest fundraiser. After enjoying the meal, the council convened at 6:11 p.m.
2. Pastor Steve shared a devotion about Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords.
3. Mandy Herber was a guest and shared a couple of items regarding the Benefits Task force concerning salaries and insurance adjustments.
4. Heard positive feedback on hosting a budget workshop prior to the Bi-annual meeting.
5. Discussed bids for security cameras on Spirit Haus.
6. Discussed council duties for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.
7. Heard an update on Klaerner property that construction will start after leveling has taken place.
8. Approved agenda for Bi-annual meeting on December 14, 2025.
9. Pastor Tobias Heike to start February 1, 2026, and will be ordained on March 22 at 3:00 p.m. to allow his family time to arrive and celebrate that event. A time of fellowship will be observed following the ordination service.
10. Regular meeting minutes were approved along with the treasurer's report.
11. Jody Donovan with Joseph Financial will hold a workshop in January on other investment opportunities including stocks, bonds, and other forms of giving for interested individuals.
12. Joys and concerns were shared as we closed with prayer, adjourning the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

OFFICE CLOSED

The HGLC office hours for the holidays are:

Christmas Eve - will close at noon
 Christmas Day - closed
 New Year's Eve - will close at noon
 New Year's Day - closed

May your holidays be blessed as you
 celebrate the greatest gift of all -
 our Lord and Savior,
 Jesus Christ!

The 2025 Church Council

Chris Nevins - president, Valerie Bonn - vice president,
 Jerry Gross - treasurer, and Nancy Lochte - secretary,
 Hiram Lucius, Nick Thompson, Tudy Tritch, Ken Messinger,
 Alice Segner, Carolyn Weidenfeller, Jeff Boyd, & Todd Weiss.

Please pray for your leaders!

Attendance at a Glance

JANUARY

2025 In Person: 427
 2025 On-line Views: 463
 2024 In Person: 241
 2024 On-line Views: 219

FEBRUARY

2025 In Person: 313
 2025 On-line Views: 363
 2024 In Person: 328
 2024 On-line Views: 185

MARCH

2025 In Person: 343
 2025 On-line Views: 317
 2024 In Person: 570
 2024 On-line Views: 341

APRIL

2025 In Person: 471
 2025 On-line Views: 385
 2024 In Person: 361
 2024 On-line Views: 275

MAY

2025 In Person: 318
 2025 On-line Views: 279
 2024 In Person: 370
 2024 On-line Views: 349

JUNE

2025 In Person: 306
 2025 On-line Views: 285
 2024 In Person: 343
 2024 On-line Views: 308

JULY

2025 In Person: 298
 2025 On-line Views: 326
 2024 In Person: 326
 2024 On-line Views: 333

AUGUST

2025 In Person: 364
 2025 On-line Views: 261
 2024 In Person: 351
 2024 On-line Views: 449

SEPTEMBER

2025 In Person: 356
 2025 On-line Views: 301
 2024 In Person: 451
 2024 On-line Views: 428

OCTOBER

2025 In Person: 395
 2025 On-line Views: 294
 2024 In Person: 382
 2024 On-line Views: 349

November attendance will be
 posted in the next newsletter.



HOLY GHOST LUTHERAN WOMEN OF FAITH

LWR COLLECTION – We had a great troop of men and women to help load the U-Haul for the LWR Collection. Holy Ghost members sent 467 quilts, 171 personal care kits and 72 baby care kits. The total shipped was 1,322 quilts, 415 personal care kits, 218 school care kits, 124 baby care kits, and 23 fabric kits. This is a total of 361 boxes. Our troopers were Kenneth and Barbara Sagebiel, Larry and Charlotte Taylor, Mark Gibbs, Pastor Steve, Blaine and Debbie Phelps and Joyce Priem. The people behind the scene were Sue Gustin, Helen Scroggs, Carol Feuge, and Ola Mae Pehl.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to Kenneth and Barbara Sagebiel for providing the U-Haul and delivering the load to Marion.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS - The Women of Faith will make Christmas baskets again. Watch the bulletin to see when they will be available.

The Women of Faith met October 19th for their general meeting. The following funds were distributed:

Cross Trails Ministry - \$100	Kindernest - \$750	Boys and Girls Club - \$250
LWR Shipping - \$200	Meals on Wheels - \$500	Feeding John - \$300
Fredericksburg Food Pantry - \$500	HCNC Food for Kids - \$400	HGLC Camping Fund - \$500



ALTAR GUILD:

December:

Virginia Feuge	Laura Lundquist
Cheryl Sione	Valerie Bonn
Kristen Crenwelge	Kay Steinbring
Julia Standish	Robes: Karen Grona

January:

Debbie Phelps	Lisa Olfers
Sandra Poole	Sherry Durst
Suzana Renteria	Kim Terry
	Robes: Joan Bonn

WOMEN OF FAITH LEADERS:

<u>Circles</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Evening Guild	Christmas Party	TBD
Lydia Circle	Christmas Party	TBD
Katherine Luther	Christmas Party	TBD

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS:

Please remember to return the keys when you are finished with them. There is a sign in/out sheet in the basket in the Altar Guild Room to help with this process.



Altar Flowers REMINDER for DECEMBER:

The following have signed up to provide altar flowers the month of December.

December 6/7	Ellis & Tudi Tritsch
December 13/14	Ola Mae Pehl
December 20/21	Polly Zenner
December 27/28	Greg & Karen Henricksen

Thank you so much for this important part of our worship service!!



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

Hospitalizations:

Jeremy Berardi
 Clinton Feuge
 Deborah Messinger
 Polly Palmer
 Lon Lett



Sympathies to the Families of:

Pastor William Breen
 Dorothy Eckert
 Harvey Ellebracht

Please pray for those on Hospice and those in need!

NOVEMBER PASTORAL ACTS

Funerals:

10-31-2025 Pastor William Breen
 11-06-2025 Dorothy Eckert
 11-07-2025 Harvey Ellebracht

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.

NURSING HOME COMMUNION: DECEMBER - HGLC

First Wednesdays

12/03/2025	Knopp Assisted Living	9:30 a.m.
12/03/2025	Knopp #2 NH	10:30 a.m.

First Thursdays

12/04/2025	Heritage Place	9:30 a.m.
12/04/2025	Enchanted Rock NH	10:30 a.m.

Second Wednesdays

12/10/2025	Villages of Windcrest	9:30 a.m.
12/10/2025	Fredericksburg NH	10:30 a.m.

Second Thursdays

12/11/2025	Knopp Retirement Center	9:30 a.m.
12/11/2025	Knopp #1 NH	10:30 a.m.



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 to hospital records to know who is an inpatient. So please call the church office if a visit by one of the pastors is desired.

CELEBRATIONS



Happy Birthday

Emmi Burrer 12/29



Fred & Judy Nardini	12/15/62
Dennis & Linda Ellebracht	12/20/69
Marshall & Debbie Akin	12/21/68
James & Ruth Welgehausen	12/30/55

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church welcomes new members:

Dennis & Sandy Maulden

Jeff Husfeld

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

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
See the choices on this page.

Join in at 9:15-10:15 a.m.
The coffee is on us!

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



This month the breakfast bar will only be open on December 14th.
Please join us that morning from
8:30-9:30 for food and fellowship.
(Donations accepted.)

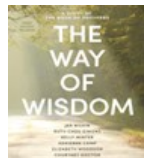
The breakfast bar will resume on
Sunday, January 11th.

Women's Evening Bible Study

The Women's evening Bible study will
meet at **6 p.m. in the HGLC Spirit Haus**
on the following dates:

December 2nd and 16th

We are studying *The Way of Wisdom: A Study of the Book of Proverbs*. Books are available on Amazon or Lifeway.



Weeknight Bible Study

Pastor David's Bible study group will be taking a break.
Be on the lookout for information regarding the upcoming Bible study after the holidays!

Adult Education

There are currently three adult education classes being offered each Sunday morning at **9:15 to 10:15**.

"Journey Through the Lord's Prayer"

The Pastors' Class will continue their study of The Catechism with a journey through the Lord's Prayer. We will study each of the petitions in depth, and look at prayer in general, and how prayer is central to our faith life as Christians.

"Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith"

The Sage Class will begin this new study with leader, Norm Nevins. The class will look at the life and teaching of Jesus to see more of what God is like and what His intentions are for humanity.

"You Can Handle the Truth - Survey of Christian Apologetics"

Gil Becker will continue this class on apologetics and how we defend our faith, especially in these modern times.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study:

Pastor Steve's 1st Corinthians Bible Study will conclude on Wednesday, December 17th. We meet at noon and everyone is welcome!

New Bible Study on a New Day:
2nd Corinthians on Tuesdays at noon

beginning January 13th! Pastor Steve will begin a brand new 12-week study on Tuesdays from 12:00-1:15pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. (Bring a friend!). Sign up by contacting the church office 830-997-2288.

From the R Team - Read your Bible daily!

Every now and then we need new beginnings and hard resets. Jesus' birth many years ago provided that opportunity for the entire human population. The Bible has a lot to say about new beginnings. Wishing you a blessed and joyous Christmas from the R Team

2 Corinthians 5:17
Lamentations 3:22-24
Genesis 1:1
John 3:16
Psalm 40:3

Isaiah 43:19
1 Peter 1:3
Ezekiel 36:26
Colossians 3:9-10

Ephesians 4:22-24
Philippians 3:13-14
Revelation 21:5
John 1:1

Advent Sermon Series

Jesus is Coming



Messages in December



Sat. & Sun., Dec. 6 & 7: For the 2nd weekend of Advent, we will hear the prophecy of Isaiah 11:1-10 which describes the promised Messiah as the Branch of Jesse, anointed by the Spirit to fulfill His mission for us. *"Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny; Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel."*

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 13 & 14: The Third Sunday of Advent: "Jesus the Messiah: Defender of the Widow and Orphan." The prophets promise and the psalmist proclaims that God's heart for justice will be made manifest in and through Jesus, the Messiah. We invite you to prayerfully read Psalm 146 and consider carefully our daily calling as we follow the Lord Jesus who "upholds the cause of the oppressed" and "sustains the fatherless and the widow."

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 20 & 21: "Are You the One?" is the question that John the Baptist asked from prison. The proof is found in the works that Jesus was doing. What works are we doing today to continue to serve and honor our Lord?

Christmas Eve: We celebrate today the great and only hope of the world: the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World! Isaiah declares: "on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2) and Jesus declares "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12). Come and worship. Come and experience the hope and joy only Jesus can bring!

Christmas Day: Jesus is the Light which no darkness can overcome. John 1 may not have a traditional Christmas story of Jesus' birth. What John declares takes us all the way back to creation, and God's plan from the very beginning to bring salvation to the whole world.

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 27 & 28: We look forward to a service of carols and a reflection on the impact of the birth of Jesus on the world. Come and worship the newborn King!

New Year's Eve: "Be Prepared!" As we prepare for a new year to dawn, we also are reminded to be prepared in our lives of faith. What does it mean to be prepared and to be ready when our Savior comes again?

Holy Communion in December:

Holy Communion this month will be served on:

- ♦ the weekend of **December 13 & 14**
- ♦ the weekend of **December 27 & 28**
- ♦ **Christmas Eve at all services - 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., & 7:00 p.m.**
- ♦ **Christmas Day service - 10:00 a.m.**



Praise Services in December

With the Holiday season we will not have our regular praise services on the third and fourth weekends of the month. But we will offer a **Christmas Carol sing along on the 27th.**

HGLC Radio Broadcast

is aired weekly on Sunday mornings on KNAF 910AM at 10 o'clock.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DECEMBER

Once again our youth will be heading to Mexico with Mission de Candelilla for an after-Christmas celebration in the villages in northern Mexico that we have come to know and love. Please support our youth and be ready for those special Christmas gift lists (and boxes) for the families. Watch for upcoming announcements and updates!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Steve Qualben. (830) 997-2288

Hill Country Flood Relief

On July 4th floods ravaged many areas of the Hill Country. The loss of life in Kerr County was devastating and the needs of the community have been enormous. Holy Ghost responded in a powerful way! You donated over \$12,000 for flood relief in Kerr County! Mercy Chefs, a national relief organization, has been on the ground since the very beginning, providing meals to first responders and citizens since the very first week of recovery operations. Some of our own Holy Ghosts have served as volunteers with Mercy Chefs and Pastor Steve has been in regular contact with them since July. They continue to serve over 800 meals a day Monday through Friday to first responders, recovery crews and other families in need. They use Methodist Encampment retreat center kitchen and dining hall as their base. Because of their continuing, hands-on outreach, we hand-delivered a check for \$8,000 to support their work. Their average cost per meal is \$2.50 – so our gift is going to feed a lot of folks! Praise be to God for your generosity! Well done! Please be in prayer with us as we consider where best to dedicate the remaining \$4,000.



CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Let us walk with you through your cancer journey.

The Cancer Support Group is hosted at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church and is open to the community and surrounding areas.

Please join us for support, advice, and prayers for cancer fighters, survivors, caregivers and family. We normally meet the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. In lieu of our December meeting we will be gathering on **Wednesday, December 10th for a potluck Christmas Party**. If you would like more information, please contact Iris Burrer at 830-456-5711 or Karen Dolezal at 512-517-3180.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Our caregivers support group meets the second Wednesday of the month at **10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. This month we will meet on **December 10th**.

Anyone who has been a caregiver for a loved one is welcome to attend one hour of sharing and caring for one another. Our group is led by Pastor Steve and LeAnn Segner. Call Pastor Steve for information at 830-997-2288. May the Lord God bless and refresh you as you love and serve your loved one!

Widow's Might

Widow's Might meets the **first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.** This month we will enjoy a meal out together and a time of fellowship on **December 3rd**. Please call **Rhonda Eckert at 830-456-4617** for more information. All widows are invited to attend.



Ladies' Lunch Study

All ladies are invited to join us as we finish our study of Max Lucado's: *Tame Your Thoughts* on **Wednesday, December 3rd at Noon in the Spirit Haus**. On **Wednesday, December 17th at Noon**, we will have our annual Christmas Luncheon at an offsite location. For more information, please contact Kim Gibbs at 830-456-7299.



HolyMark Cardmakers take a well-deserved break!

There is **no December gathering** of the HolyMark Cardmakers. This is because they did so well in 2025 that *they deserve a break!*

So catch up on your Christmas shopping. Put up your Christmas tree. Bake a fruitcake. (If you don't have anyone in your family who loves fruitcake, donate it to Pastor Jan – she loves them!)



Band of Brothers

****Note changes to Band of Brothers schedule for December.****

Band of Brothers will meet **Wednesday, December 3 at 8:00 a.m.** for breakfast, devo, and helping the Fishers for Christ set up the Fellowship Hall for the annual Nativity Display, as well as working on other projects around campus. ****Note that this is Wednesday instead of our usual Tuesday**. For more info, please contact the church office or Doyle Moellering at 830/456-1349. All men are welcome!



Game Night for December

Game Night for December will be held on Thursday, **December 11th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall!

Feeding John Program



Feeding John

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

Three support groups meet at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church: one on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and the others on Thursdays at 6 p.m. & 8 p.m. in the Spirit Haus. Please make use of the support resources available to you, your family, and/or your friends. HGLC supports those in recovery!

FBG FOOD PANTRY

The Fredericksburg Food Pantry has sent out a request for specific items that are needed to provide for students who might otherwise not have access to nutritious food while school is not in session. If you can help provide any of the items listed below, please place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. We will make sure the Food Pantry receives the items on your behalf. Thank you!

Tuna Kits	Beanie Wienies	Trail Mix/Nuts
Applesauce	Protein Bars	Breakfast/Granola Bars
Fruit Cups	100% Juice Boxes	Beef Jerky/Meat Sticks
	GoGo Squeeze Yogurt	Peanut Butter (Individual Servings)
		Crackers w/ Cheese/Peanut Butter

A Word about a special TAX SAVINGS Opportunity to Give: Required Minimum Distribution

The dreaded RMD is the requirement from the IRS that once a person reaches age 72 (73 if you achieve age 72 after Dec. 31, 2022) you must take distributions from your 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.



Please note that the information in the previous newsletters was incorrect. Always verify such information with your accountant and/or broker.

GRACED - DEDICATE Self to the Tithe and Beyond

HOLY GHOST FINANCIAL REPORT



2025 Contributions

If you would like for your contributions to be recorded in 2025, please **submit your offerings to the church office by noon on December 31st** or place them in the offering plate at the **New Year's Eve service**. **Mailed in gifts must be post marked on or before December 31, 2025.**

Retirees! Have you satisfied your 2025 IRA Required Minimum Distribution yet? Did you know by donating directly to your church through a Qualified Charitable Distribution you could potentially reap a tax advantage and help the church out financially. Consult with your IRS Custodian or tax advisor for more information. **The church will have workshop on the subject, January 18th.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
8am - Worship	10:15am - KNEST Play Practice: Sanctuary	NewsLetter News Due	8am - Band of Brothers 12pm - "Wednesday Noon" Bible Study - S 12pm - Ladies Lunch Study 4pm - After School Club 5:15pm - Widow's Might: Off Site 5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo. 5:15pm - Investment Team Mtg.: Alpha 6:30pm - Kindest Christmas Program	4pm - Nativity Display 6:30pm - Light the Night Christmas	2pm - Nativity Display 6pm - Worship: FH
8:30am - Breakfast Bar	9am - LWR Quilters 1pm - HG Quilters	9am - LWR Quilters 9:55am - KNEST Devo. 1pm - HG Quilters	8am - Band of Brothers 12pm - "Wednesday Noon" Bible Study - S 12pm - Ladies Lunch Study 4pm - After School Club 5:15pm - Widow's Might: Off Site 5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo. 5:15pm - Investment Team Mtg.: Alpha 6:30pm - Kindest Christmas Program	4pm - Nativity Display 6:30pm - Light the Night Christmas	2pm - Nativity Display 6pm - Worship: FH
9:15am - Sunday School	4pm - Youth Choir: Basement 6pm - Suicide Memorial @ St. Barnabas 6:30pm - HS Youth Bible Study: Daniel's	9am - LWR Quilters 1pm - HG Quilters 4pm - Youth Choir: Basement 6pm - Evening Guild 6:30pm - HS Youth Bible Study: Daniel's	8am - Band of Brothers 12pm - "Wednesday Noon" Bible Study - S 12pm - Ladies Lunch Study 4pm - After School Club 5:15pm - Widow's Might: Off Site 5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo. 5:15pm - Investment Team Mtg.: Alpha 6:30pm - Kindest Christmas Program	4pm - Nativity Display 6:30pm - Light the Night Christmas	2pm - Nativity Display 6pm - Worship: FH
10am - Worship: KNAF 910am/107.9FM						
10:30am - Worship						
12:30pm - Christmas Tree Set Up						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8am - Worship	9am - LWR Quilters 1pm - HG Quilters 4pm - Youth Choir: Basement 6pm - Evening Guild 6:30pm - HS Youth Bible Study: Daniel's	9am - LWR Quilters 9:55am - KNEST Devo. 1pm - HG Quilters 7pm - Lay Comm. Visitors. Mtg	6:30am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Caregiver's Support 12pm - "Wednesday Noon" Bible Study - S 4pm - After School Club 5:30pm - Cancer Group Mtg. Alpha Rm 5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo. 12pm - WOF Christmas Dinner - All Circles 6pm - Game Night	6pm - Nacho Movie Night	10am - Sunday School Play Practice 6pm - Worship: Comm
9am - Nativity Display						
9:15am - Sunday School						
10am - Worship: KNAF 910am/107.9FM						
10:30am - Worship						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8am - Worship: Comm	African Children's Choir Youth & Families	Happy Birthday!	Christmas Dinner RSVP's Due	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo.	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
8:30am - Breakfast Bar	9am - LWR Quilters	9pm NewsLetter	NewsLetter: Assemble! Main Email Copy to	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo.	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
9:15am - Sunday School	1pm - HG Quilters	9am - LWR Quilters	12pm - "Wednesday Noon" Bible Study - S	12pm - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo.	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
10am - Worship: KNAF 910am/107.9FM	4pm - Youth Choir: Basement	9:55am - KNEST Devo.	12pm - Ladies Lunch Study	7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo.	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
10:30am - Worship: Comm/SS Christmas	6pm - Church Council	1pm - HG Quilters	4pm - After School Club	12pm - Ladies Lunch Study	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
11:30am - Bi-Annual Cong. Mtg.	6pm - Men In Mission	6pm - Church-to-Church Walk	5:30pm - God Squad Small Group	12pm - Ladies Lunch Study	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
7pm - African Children's Choir Concert		6pm - Women's Evening Bible Study	5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	12pm - Ladies Lunch Study 4pm - After School Club 5:30pm - God Squad Small Group 5:45pm - Grace Notes 6pm - MS Youth: Youth RM 7pm - Sanctuary Choir 8pm - WILD: Youth RM	6:30pm - Friday Night Live	6pm - Worship
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8am - Worship	9am - LWR Quilters 1pm - HG Quilters	9am - LWR Quilters 10am - Sue Gustin: Small Group: Alpha 1pm - HG Quilters 6pm - Alan Williams Small Group- Off Site	12pm - Office Close 3pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight 5pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight 7pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight	Office Closed 10am - Christmas Day Worship 11am - Christmas Day Dinner	6pm - Worship: Comm	6pm - Worship: Comm
9:15am - Sunday School/Christmas						
10am - Worship: KNAF 910am/107.9FM						
10:30am - Worship						
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Deadtime to return MX Mission Trip Bns	9am - LWR Quilters 1pm - HG Quilters 4pm - Youth Choir: Basement	9am - LWR Quilters 9:55am - KNEST Devo. 1pm - HG Quilters	12pm - Office Close 4pm - After School Club 6pm - New Year's Eve Worship: Comm	Office Closed 7am - Men's Community Bible Study 10:15am - KNEST Devo.	Mexico Mission Trip	6pm - Worship
Feeding John						
8am - Worship: Comm						
9:15am - Sunday School						
10am - Worship: KNAF 910am/107.9FM						
10:30am - Worship: Comm						
11:30am - Load Christmas Bn						

DECEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Council Members	Disciple Teams	Readers	Communion Assistants	Video Techs	Radio Broadcast	Sound Board
Dec 6	6:00pm	Alice Segner	Shirley Nielsen, Mandy Herber Paul & Pastor Jan Unger	Dianne Staudt		Johnna Alberthal		Nicole Robertson
Dec 7	8:00am	Ken Messinger	Todd & Radonna Spies Mark Moellering, Mandy Herber	Debbie Klaen		Megan Blizzard	Ronnie Ersch	Nicole Robertson
Dec 7	10:30pm	Chris Nevins	Patti Feller, Kay Pressler Kenneth & Marjorie Otte	Bryan Moellering		Linda Adams		Nicole Robertson
Dec 13	6:00pm	Alice Segner	Lisa Kaman, Yvonne Fox Glenda Mott, Corrine Jung	Deborah Johnson	Cindy Harper, Judy Nardini, Polly Zenner Pew: Mark & Susan Stroehner	Kimberly Bauer		Nicole Robertson
Dec 14	8:00am	Ken Messinger	Ray & Debrah Klaehn Mark Moellering, Janie Guynes	Valerie Bonn	Mike & Sandy Birdlebough Pew: Joan Bonn, Sherry Kaiser	Linda Adams	Chris Bauer	Nicole Robertson
Dec 14	10:30am	Chris Nevins	Patti Feller, Kay Pressler Bryan & Dana Moellering	Christmas Program	Dwayne & Kathy Boos Pew: Cathy Itz, Sue Gustin	Paul Seidensticker		Nicole Robertson
Dec 20	6:00pm	Alice Segner	Stephen & Mary Beth Bauer Mandy Herber, Lisa Kaman	Roxanne Frantzen		Kimberly Bauer		Nicole Robertson
Dec 21	8:00am	Ken Messinger	Ray & Debrah Klaehn Mark Moellering, Mandy Herber	Youth		Megan Blizzard	Carey Bonn	Nicole Robertson
Dec 21	10:30am	Chris Nevins	Patti Feller, Kay Pressler Ellis & Tudy Trish	Gage Thompson		Paul Seidensticker		Nicole Robertson
Dec 24	3:00pm	TBD	Karen Immel Paul & Pastor Jan Unger	Dawn Barron	Curtis & Dianne Staudt, Laverne Boos Emmie Burrel Pew: Paul & Nancy Lochte	Linda Adams		Nicole Robertson
Dec 24	5:00pm	TBD	Tim & Kim Terry Patti Feller, Janie Guynes	Lisa Kaman	Mike & Sandy Birdlebough, Janie Guynes Betty Seidensticker Pew: Ellis & Tudy Tritch	Paul Seidensticker		Nicole Robertson
Dec 24	7:00pm	TBD	Judy Vordenbaum Gerald Shanks	Pastor	Corrine Jung, Karri Klier Pew: Debbi Klaehn	Kimberly Bauer		Nicole Robertson
Dec 25	10:00am	TBD	Deborah Johnson Paul & Pastor Jan Unger	Pastor	Patti Feller, Polly Zenner Edward Stroehner	Linda Adams		Nicole Robertson
Dec 27	6:00pm	Alice Segner	Pastor Jan Unger, Karen Immel Sondra Sultemeier	Pastor Jan	Mark & Susan Stroehner, Patti Feller Pew: Polly Zenner, Kay Pressler	Johnna Alberthal		Nicole Robertson
Dec 28	8:00am	Ken Messinger	Judy Vordenbaum, Janie Guynes Gerald Shanks	Joyce Thiele	Janie Guynes, Paul Lochte Pew: Joan Bonn, Nancy Lochte	Megan Blizzard	Paul Unger	Nicole Robertson
Dec 28	10:30am	Chris Nevins	Kenneth & Marjorie Otte Deborah Johnson, Jim & Lynne Parker	Paul/Betty Seidensticker	Ted & Rhonda Simpson Pew: Sherry Kaiser, Yvonne Fox	Linda Adams		Nicole Robertson
Dec 31	6:00pm	TBD	Pastor Jan Unger	Pastor	Judy Nardini	TBD		Nicole Robertson

ACOLYTES: Saturday 6:00pm - Volunteers Needed
Sunday 8:00am - Jacob Winn
Sunday 10:30am - Henry Cornett, Perry Tait, Margaret Stevens



DECEMBER 2025

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Christmas Cookie Extravaganza!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

We'll hang out in the fellowship hall at 9:15am and decorate cookies to share!

Christmas Eve OPEN HAUS



Dec 24 • 2:30pm-8:00pm

117 E San Antonio (the Hofmanns) will be open for refreshments before + after each worship! Fly on by so we can say "Merry Christmas!"



Christmas Program

PARTS AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE OF ANY AGE!

REHEARSAL

Saturday, Dec 13

10AM in the

sanctuary for a quick run-through.

PERFORMANCE

Sunday, Dec 14

9:15AM in the basement to get ready for the 10:30AM service!

JUST AS I AM HYMNS TOUR



Live in concert

JOIN US FOR AN IMMERSIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE THROUGH SONG, DANCE & VIDEO STORY TELLING!

The Just As I Am tour combines traditional hymns with African cultural sounds and a stunning visual story of God's faithfulness. Don't miss out on this uniquely immersive experience through song, dance and video story telling.

Sunday, December 14, 2025 | 7:00 pm
Fredericksburg, Texas

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church
109 E San Antonio St
(830) 997-2288

AFRICANCHILDRENSCHOIR.COM

DECEMBER 19

HOLY GHOST'S FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE



KIDS IN K-5TH GRADE ARE INVITED TO THE HOLY GHOST YOUTH ROOM FOR A FUN EVENING OF GAMERS, SNACKS, MUSIC, A DEVOTION, AND MORE!

YOUTH ROOM FOR A FUN EVENING OF GAMERS, SNACKS, MUSIC, A DEVOTION, AND MORE! WE'LL GATHER ON DECEMBER 19 AT 6:30PM - 8:30PM

GATHER ON DECEMBER 19 AT 6:30PM - 8:30PM! KIDS IN K-5TH GRADE ARE INVITED TO THE

CAMPFIRE Christmas

December 15 • 6:30pm • Hill Country River Ranch

YOUTH OF ALL AGES AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME!

THIS IS WHERE THE KIDS FROM THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL BE STAYING, AND WE'VE BEEN INVITED TO SHOW THEM A TEXAS CHRISTMAS! WE'LL HANG OUT, SING SONGS, MAKE CRAFTS, ROAST S'MORES, + MORE!

160 Glad Heart Trail, Fredericksburg

PLEASE RSVP TO DANIEL AT 830-998-8299 OR DANIELH@HOLYHOSTFBG.ORG

CAMP
CHRYSALIS
June 21-26

VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL
July 27-31

BE & MAKE DISCIPLES!

December 2025

Youth News

Latest youth news and updates

What's going on in Youth Ministry this month?

We had an amazing past month! We had Fields of Faith, which is where youth groups in our community gather together for worship, games, and a message. At Fields of Faith, high school seniors share their faith story to their peers, and one of our own, Izzy Reeh, shared her faith story to over 400 teenagers. Way to go, Izzy!

Wednesday night programming is picking up momentum, not only physically, but spiritually. It's humbling to see how God is transforming our teens into His image.



Izzy Reeh sharing her faith story at Fields of Faith on Oct 22nd!

Dates to keep in mind:

Youth Group Every Wednesday Night:

Middle School: 6-7:30pm/ High School: 8-9:00pm

December 12: Nacho Libre Movie Night with Nacho Bar

January 2-5: Mexico Mission Trip

January 30-31: Generate Youth Conference in San Antonio

March 13th: Lock-in



We look forward to hearing news from Kindernest in the near future!



Greetings from Pastor Tobias

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the moving boxes pile higher here in northern Germany and our anticipation grows, the Heike family is getting very excited! We now have flights booked to Austin, a start date of February 1, and an ordination date of March 22 with the Bishop. Ever since I received your call to be your newest pastor, time seems to be flying faster and faster, which suits me just fine because I can hardly wait to get started. All this waiting is hard!

But perhaps this is the perfect season in which to practice waiting. Advent is nearly upon us, and we begin again that joyful waiting for Christmas, when God came down to meet us in our brokenness and give His all to make us whole. "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you" (Jer 29:11). Christie and I keep this verse close these days whenever one of us starts to worry. And also: "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13), especially when customs forms and insurance paperwork are involved...!

In the midst of it all, it has been such an encouragement to receive your notes, prayers, and warm words of welcome. We are deeply grateful.

We wish you a joyful and blessed Christmas season — and we cannot wait to be with you in February.

**Peace and joy in Christ,
Tobias, Christie, Malin, and Kirsten Heike**



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
David Priem, Pastor
Steve Qualben, Pastor
Clint Pluenneke, Pastor
Daniel Hofmann, Minister of Children & Young Families
John LaRocque, Youth Minister

Shanese Lochte, Office Manager
Blake Neffendorf, Office Assistant
Kandice Wadsworth, Office Assistant
Myrna Olivarez, Office Assistant
June Woerner, Finance Secretary
Pastor Alan Williams, Visitation Minister Coach
Pastor Jan Unger, Visitation Minister
Imogene Schollian, Ministry Facilitator
Annisa Alonzo, Kinderneest Preschool Director
Karen Henricksen, 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.org

Website: www.holyghostfbg.org

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Clint Pluenneke - clintp@holyghostfbg.org
Daniel Hofmann - danielh@holyghostfbg.org
John LaRocque - johnl@holyghostfbg.org

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



NALC

North American Lutheran Church



lcmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

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:

Building Committee	David Bullion	830-998-1889
"C" Team Contact	Laverne Boos	830-739-4263
"C" Team Contact	Sharon Johnson	830-992-3408
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 Stroehrer	830-456-3143
Christmas Day Dinner	Denise Usener	830-456-1742
Feeding John	Sandy Birdlebough	830-998-4504
Float Team	(vacant)	
Fishers for Christ	Debbie Klaehn	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	(vacant)	
Kinderneest Team	(vacant)	
Kitchen Team	Laverne Boos	830-739-4263
Kitchen Team	Judy Nardini	361-774-3219
LWR Quilters	Polly Zenner	830-889-5701
NH Comm. Coordinator	Yvonne Fox	830-998-4600
NH Devotions	JoAnn Durst	830-997-2245
"P" Team	Donald Pressler	830-329-3603
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	Pastor Steve Qualben	830-997-2288
Stewardship Team	Kathy Boos	830-456-7218
Tele-Buddy Ministry	Imogene Schollian	830-456-3200
Worship Decorating	Rhonda Simpson	830-456-4617

WORSHIP TEAMS:

Altar Guild Coordinator	Virginia Feuge	830-998-7857
Altar Guild Coordinator	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 Coordinator	Tammy Vitek	830-456-1799
Readers Coordinator	Joyce Thiele	830-456-1617
Sound Coordinator	Nicole Robertson	830-307-4757
Video Tech Coordinator	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 President	Chris Nevins	830-992-1379
Men in Mission	Harvey Hengst	830-456-7663
Sunday School Supt.	Kayla Schmidt/	830-456-8849
	Allison Durst	830-225-0280
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	TBD	830-997-2288
Widow's Might	Rhonda Simpson	830-456-4617

CONTACT INFO NOTE

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

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

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Oh come let us adore Him!

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