



THE MESSENGER

Galilee Lutheran Church

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JANUARY 2023



FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings,

We are in the finally days of 2022 with 2023 right around the corner. The new year lies before us like a book with 365 blank pages. We have no idea what will be written on those pages as the year unfolds but we can probably count on there bringing joys as well as sorrows, easy roads as well as more challenging paths to journey down, and things we expect as well as well as things we least expect. I cannot tell you what 2023 holds, but I can tell you who holds 2023 and assure you that God is already there, waiting for us and waiting to carry us through those days, whatever they may bring.

Normally we have two congregational meetings this time of the year, one in December to vote on new council members and a new budget and then one in January to adopt the Book of Reports for the previous year. This year however, we will be doing all of that in one meeting so I'm going to ask that you plan to attend that meeting on January 15th immediately following our worship service.

As 2023 unfolds, I, as the pastor of Galilee will be spending a good deal of time helping us make plans for our future. I want us to spend time in prayer asking God to reveal His plans for Galilee and then spend time discerning how to get where God is leading us and how to best fulfill His plans for us; We are not here by accident. We are here because God has called us here and we are here to be the church of God for God's people. I'm excited to see how we can grow as we continue to be the hands and feet of God in new ways for our community.

The first thing on my list for 2023 however is to make plans for Lent and Holy Week. Easter falls on the early side this year (April 9th) which means that Ash Wednesday is early (February 22nd). I will be working on writing or adapting a series for us to do during the five weeks of Lent as we gather for Soup and Sandwich dinners followed by time together for learning, fellowship and worship on Wednesday nights. Mark your calendars now for Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd with mid-week dinner and learning on March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

In these final days of this year, my prayers are with you as you reflect back on the year 2022 and all that it brought you and your family and as you look forward to 2023 and all that it holds in store for you.

Blessings, Pastor Karen



- 1. The Epiphany is celebrated on January 6.** Epiphany is a special part of Christmas and the story of Jesus' birth, as it marks when the three wise men followed a star to visit the son of God.
- 2. It marks the day Jesus was revealed to the world.** The festival comes from the Greek word which means 'reveal'.
- 3. In some countries, Epiphany is as important as Christmas Day.** In Spain and some Latin American countries, people day the day off work on January 6 and hold parades and fireworks displays in the streets.
- 4. Some believe it is the wise men, not Santa, who bring gifts for children.** The night before Epiphany, children leave out drinks for the three wise men and fill their shoes with straw for the kings' horses to eat. The next day they will find cookies, sweets or gifts in place of the drinks they left out.
- 5. Eastern Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas on Epiphany.** However, their Epiphany is celebrated on January 19 and commemorates the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan.
- 6. Season of Epiphany.** For Lutherans and many other Christians, the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th, Epiphany day to Ash Wednesday
- 7. Roast Lamb.** For many families, the tradition of serving roast lamb on Epiphany to honor Christ continues.



“Bear” (Jamie’s daughter) continues to suffer from seizures and damage to her shoulders from the falls caused by her seizures

Lori H undergoing treatment for breast cancer

Paula P continuing heart problems and testing

Judy T Lung cancer treatment

Rose H continuing to recuperate following a fall

Sharon (Pastor Karen’s mother) undergoing treatment to hopefully avoid having foot amputated



KRAFTEE KRAFTERS



Our KRAFTEE KRAFTERS are meeting once again for fellowship and craft projects. They meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the church and they'd love to have you join them.

For more information call Nancy Mayers (740) 341-8452



HOPE
Helping Other People Eat

Hope Sunday is **Jan 1** but you can bring food in on any Sunday during the month. You may also donate money to the pantry by submitting a check made out to Galilee Lutheran Church (so you get credit for the donation) and our Treasurer will then pass it along to the pantry.



- 1/4 EMMA POWERS
- 1/13 ROSE HURLEY
- 1/21 PEGGY FOGT
- 1/25 SARAH MALLORY
- 1/27 DARCEY SCHEMSEL



- 1/30 BOB & CAROL MAIER



Pastor Karen

Monday & Thursday
9:00 – 12:00



BEAR IT BEARS

Our Bear it Bears are just waiting to be given to someone who is hurting in any way, physically, mentally or emotionally. They are sitting on the chairs in the front of the church.

Just be sure to sign them out in the logbook on the bookcase in the entrance way of the church. This is one of our outreach programs, so let us bear one another's burdens and fulfill the love of Christ.



All women of Galilee are welcome to Bible study on Thursday, January 12 at 10am at church.

We are in chapter 3 "The Sinful Woman" in the book Unexpected Love. Coffee and light refreshment will be served



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY JANUARY 15TH IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Please plan to attend this important meeting. Instead of having two meetings (one in December and one in January) we will only be having this one meeting in January.

We need your participation as we elect new Council members and adopt a budget for 2023. This will also be the perfect time to get any questions you have answered.

We will also be presenting the 2022 Book of Reports which will highlight the year we just finished as well as looking forward to the year that lay ahead.

JOY

JUST OLDER YOUTH

JANUARY 26TH

6:00 PM

Our evening will kick off with a free dinner followed by a fun night of games. Choose to play Bingo for prizes, LRC dice game, Euchre or Bridge. Or choose to bring your own game (and a friend or two) and join us for this fabulous evening.

WORSHIP THEMES FOR JANUARY



Sunday, January 1

Due to the weather forcing the cancellation of our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, we will celebrate the birth of Christ using our Christmas Eve service on this day.

Sunday, January 8

Matthew 2:1-12 God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

Sunday, January 15

John 1:29-42 John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

Sunday, January 22

Matthew 4:12-23 Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

Sunday, January 29

Matthew 5:1-12 Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.



Hi Everyone,

It's been a wonderful Christmas season, just goes by too fast. It was sorta disappointing when we couldn't be together for Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. That was some kind of snow storm. It was just way too quiet for Lucy and me. Heard Pastor Karen say we are going to celebrate this Sunday. Yeh!!

Hope the poinsettias hang in there. Deb's been here watering and praying over them. So far, so good.

Boy did we have a lot of good food in the building this month. The first big event was a Progressive Dinner for the youth in town. They came here for appetizers and to hear part of the Christmas Story read to them. The kids loved the meatballs and cocktail weinies but let me tell you...while they them because they were "bite size" Lucy and I loved them because they were almost too big for us to carry...it was like hitting the jackpot. And it was fun watching the adults go crazy over something called Pizza Rolls (Lucy and I split one and we agreed that they were pretty good). We almost missed the special reading of the story but I'm so glad we didn't because Pastor Karen had tears in her eyes when she was telling the kids about Mary, the mother of Jesus...it's a very cool story and we got a tad teary over it too.

The outreach kiddos had a big time at the Christmas party. Gobs of pizza, dessert and presents delivered by Santa. Even Moms and Dads got to come for the fun. All the Galilee friends and Drew made it happen once again.

Had a little excitement when it was so slippery and snowy, car didn't make it around the curve and came right through the front yard. He missed the tree and Christmas displays so...all is well.

So glad we get to enjoy all the beautiful Christmas decorations for another Sunday before they all get packed away. So nice to remember Jesus stays with all of us every day of the coming year and beyond. Even for us mouses.

Love and Hugs,

The Church Mouse

This story was scheduled to appear in the Christmas Day sermon and will now be told in the sermon on New Year's Day when we celebrate the birth of Christ.


The Christmas Coat

An old boy was fumblin around one day In a women's clothing store
He'd found his wife a Christmas coat And was headed for the door
When he bumped into a little boy That looked like he was lost
And he said "Mister can you help me Find out how much something costs?
Here it is almost Christmas And the nights are gettin cold
Winter time is on us And my mom don't have a coat
I've been workin for the neighbors And saving for a time"
And in his tiny outstretched hand Was a dollar and a dime
His gaze went from that big eyed boy To that pretty Christmas coat
And he finally cleared away the lump That had gathered in his throat
He said "Son that's just what this coat costs and We're lucky that we found 'er"
And he turned around and gave a wink To the lady at the counter
She put it in a pretty box And wrapped it up just so
And went off in the back And found a big red Christmas bow
He said " I thank you for your help sir And I kindly thank you ma'am
I hope y'all are gonna have a big Christmas Cause now I know I am"
Well the old boy walked home busted Except for the dollar and the dime
Thinkin he'd just have to buy The coat another time
He told his wife that Christmas this year Wouldn't be much fun
And he gently took her in his arms And told her what he'd done
She said " why you old softie I wouldn't trade you for a farm
I've got two or three old coats And your love to keep me warm "
She put that money in a matchbox And placed it beneath their tree
And said "that is the grandest gift You've ever given me"
The years went by like years will do When people are in love
Their marriage was a golden bond That was forged by God above
Then one day came some bitter news That filled his heart with fright
The doctor told the old man's wife That she was going to lose her sight
He said "there's an operation we can do But it puts me on the spot
Cause it's a quite complex procedure And it's going to cost a lot"
The old man said "doctor I'm a failure I've made no preparation
We don't have the money For that kind of an operation "
The doctor got the strangest look And he sat there for a while
And then he slowly nodded And he broke out in a smile
He said " why sir you can't fool me You're a very wealthy man
You long ago invested In the world's best savings plan
I'll see she gets the best of care She's going to be just fine
And the total cost to you old friend Is a dollar and a dime"
The old man stared in disbelief Then he recognized that smile
The one he'd seen those years ago On a loving thoughtful child
He said "what you gave to me that day Was more than just a coat
You gave me the gift of giving And you gave my mother hope
My mother'd been mistreated Neglected and abused
But she gave life just one more chance And it was all because of you
Now every year she takes that coat And lays it beneath our tree
It represents to us the things That Christmas ought to be
She says that when we leave this world For a better home someday
The only things that we'll take with us Are the things we gave away "



January 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> COUNCIL 6:45 PM	4 Happy Birthday Emma Powers	5	6	7
8	9	10 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	11	12 WELCA 10:00 am	13 Happy Birthday Rose Hurley	14
15 ANNUAL MEETING  After Church	16	17 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	18	19	20	21 Happy Birthday Peggy Fogt
22	23	24 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	25 Happy Birthday Sarah Mallory	26 JOY 6:00 pm	27 Happy Birthday Darcey Schemmel	28
29	30 Happy Anniversary Bob & Carol Maier	31 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	