



THE MESSENGER

Galilee Lutheran Church

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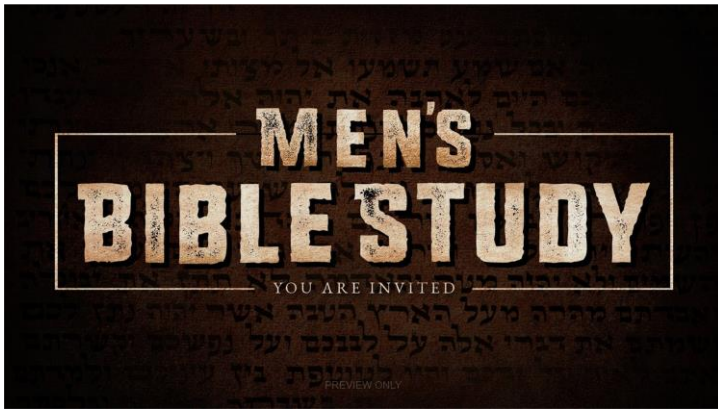
JANUARY 2025

Merry Christmas!

Yes, it's still Christmas until January 6th which will bring the arrival of the Magi on Epiphany. I hope that your Christmas celebration was full of family, hope, peace and love. I'd like to share with you an incredible experience that I had the honor of participating in this year. Last year the staff at Indian Lake Villa wanted to bless our residents with Christmas presents and we put out a request on Facebook asking for gifts to be donated. We received enough gifts that we were able to then match up the gifts with each of our residents. This year we wanted to do it again because the gifts that we gave to many of the residents last year was the only gift that they received. In November I put out a text on the Galilee hotline asking for gifts to be donated. Several people donated gifts and one family handed me a check that would cover the rest of the gifts for everyone at the Villa. I can't remember the last time I felt so giddy and so full of joy. While talking with residents I was able to gather ideas for something that each of them truly wanted and then I was able to purchase those gifts using the donated money and the other gifts that were donated. The day that we sorted, organized and made a gift bag for each residents was like Christmas had come early for us as the staff. I couldn't wait until our Christmas lunch and the chance to hand the residents their gifts. When the day finally arrived my heart overflowed with joy. Seeing their faces as they opened their gifts was truly amazing. Several people remarked that it had been years since they had been given a gift and to have it be something they had truly been longing for made it even more special. For weeks I felt like Santa...making a list, checking it twice, ordering the gifts and then wrapping and delivering the gifts and the process truly filled my Advent season with light. I know that in those gifts our residents saw and felt the love of Jesus Christ and they send their appreciation to all who made it possible. Never take for granted what we do, for Jesus takes our efforts, multiplies them and uses them to bless others beyond belief.



Blessings, Pastor Karen



**THURSDAY JANUARY 9TH
1:30 PM**

The men of Galilee are invited to join us for a Men’s Bible Study that will be starting in January. The group will meet on the second Thursday of each month (weather permitting). The study for 2025 will use materials highlighting “What It Means To Be A Lutheran”. Come join us as we learn more about our Lutheran heritage and beliefs as well as spending time in fellowship with each other.



“Bear” (Jamie’s daughter) continues to suffer from seizures

Dale B (Carol’s husband) recovering from cancer surgery and receiving treatment for Lung Cancer

Melissa Meyers (Fred’s daughter in law) who is being treated for cancer

Steve Hanger suffering from advanced dementia and Parkinson’s Disease

Leslie Andrews (Ed’s daughter) dealing with high white cell count

Lisa Partin undergoing cancer treatments



**EPIPHANY POT LUCK
SUNDAY JANUARY 5TH
AFTER WORSHIP**

Please plan to join us as we celebrate the journey of the Magi with a pot luck lunch.

The dessert will be provided and we ask that everyone bring either a casserole or a salad to share.



We are thrilled to announce that Michael Mallory has returned as Worship Leader for Galilee. Michael will lead us in singing the hymns each Sunday as well as singing a solo during Communion. He is also taking over the process of programming and operating the Digital Hymnal for the Sundays that we do not have an organist. And because Michael is much more musically inclined than Pastor Karen he will now be choosing the hymns that we sing each week. When you have a chance please let Michael know how thrilled we are to have him back and sharing his talents with us.



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 January 5th 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.



1/7 Norma Warren

1/12 Time (TJ) Frazier

1/13 Rose Hurley

1/21 Peggy Fogt

**1/24 Marlene
Feldpausch**

1/27 Darcey Schemmel



**1/30 BOB & CAROL
MAIER**



Pastor Karen

Monday by appointment
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.



**CHURCH
LIBRARY**

Kraftee Krafters has developed a library for all church members to use. A reading corner has been created in the back of the sanctuary with a rocking chair and a bookcase full of books for you to choose from. Feel free to borrow a book, or if you like it and want to keep it then by all means feel free to keep it. And if you have a book or two that you'd like to donate you may leave them on the table in their room to be included in the library.

GALILEE'S TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS



Bishop Suzanne Dillahunt of the Southern Ohio Synod recently reached out to Pastor Karen to check on our Tornado Relief Efforts. In an effort to bring the Bishop up to date, Pastor Karen informed her that we still have 18 individual who will be spending the winter in campers. She reiterated to the Bishop that we have purchased winterizing kits for each of these campers and with the assistance of one of the survivors, they were all prepared (as best they could be prepared) for the long cold days ahead of us. We are also making sure that water is hauled into the campground for these families (the campground's water is shut off in the fall and will not be restored until late Spring). Bishop Dillahunt expressed her continued support of our efforts and sent her blessings to the congregation in thanks for all that we are doing to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. The Bishop also indicated that she will be releasing funds from the Synod's Disaster Relief account so that a check can be sent to Galilee to help us in our continued effort this winter.

TORNADO SURVIVOR DINNER

Thursday January 23rd
6:00

You are invited to join us as we provide a safe place for Tornado Survivors to gather and to provide them with a home cooked meal. Just let Peri or Pastor Karen know that you plan to attend so we can make sure we have enough food.

WORSHIP THEMES FOR JANUARY



SUNDAY JANUARY 5TH EPIPHANY

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 12TH BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

SUNDAY JANUARY 19TH

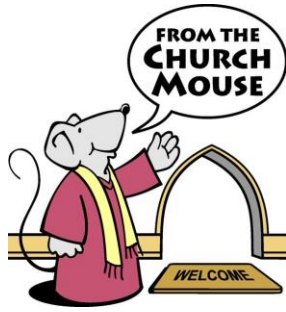
John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

SUNDAY JANUARY 26TH

Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.



H Everyone,

Hope you had a wonderful Christmas, and now it's spring..Nah, that's not right. Just feels like it when it's 60 degrees outside. Be prepared because it's gonna be 20 degrees next week.

It was a busy, busy, busy December. Three dinners in one week. The outreach kids had their annual Christmas party. Lots and Lots of kids and they brought their parents along. Super fun with food, fun and of course Santa with presents. Then JOY skipped dinner and Bingo and went directly to lots of food and fun Christmas games. Yeh!! The best part was when Pastor Karen dropped one of the popcorn tins intended for presents and it spilled everywhere. Lucy and I were able to munch a bunch before Deb got it all swept up..did you notice how many times food and fun comes up here at Galilee? Follow that with a Christmas dinner for our tornado friends. A time to come together and encourage each other Peri, Nancy and Pastor have been working overtime getting everyone settled in somewhere for the winter. Spring can't come to soon when you call a travel trailer home. Lucy and I are snug as a bug in a rug. We sure are lucky!!

Pam and Greg have abandoned us for warmer temperatures, but will be back in time for some precipitation, that means snow if you were wondering. Marge and Rose are back after spending some time in "the get some new parts" place. Better than new!

It's gonna be a wonderful 2025. Glad you are part of it. I know we are.

Love and Hugs, The Church Mouse



To our Galilee family,

As 2024 comes to a close, Jim and I want to thank you for your incredible love and support during this past year. Many time's in our lives everyone "needs someone to show up." The morning of March 15 and going forward you did with love, prayers and sturdy backs as we stood in the rubble of a tornado. Never underestimate the power of your commitment to others.

To say, what now, was where we found ourselves, trying to navigate the endless unanswered questions. The Lord was faithful, as he provided the answers on a day to day, sometimes minute to minute basis. After contacting our insurance company we had an adjuster in our house within 24 hours. A strong Christian woman she assured us that we would get through this together. Now we needed a contractor, no clue where to start on that. A name was suggested and he was there two days later. Running into many problems along the way I told him "I'll bet at times you wish you hadn't picked up that phone call." His reply, I believe that the Lord wanted us both to be right here, right now." Don and his sons helped us navigate the process which seemed at times to be insurmountable. Our family has been incredible, smoothing out the path whenever needed which was often and our friends that provided what they perceived as inconsequential, but was so appreciated.

It has been a long journey, but during these times in life when we see only one set of "Footprints," the Lord carried us. As we move forward into 2025 Jim and I thank you for supporting us in all the ways that are important. God is Good!!

Love, Jim & Jean Frobese

COMMODITY FOOD BOXES



APPLICATIONS ARE ON THE ROUND TABLE IN THE DONUT AREA. FILL IT OUT AND RETURN IT IN TO PASTOR KAREN

2ND Harvest Food Bank provides Commodity Food boxes to low income senior citizens in our county. Currently there is no pick-up location available in the Indian Lake area for the general population but that is about to change. Indian Lake Villa is a drop off location for their residents and will soon expand the service to anyone in the area wishing to receive this valuable resource. The service to the Indian Lake general public will start with the pick-up location being at Indian Lake Villa. If this starts growing and a larger number of people sign up for this program the pick up location will be moved to Galilee Lutheran Church. The boxes are delivered once a month and contain about 40 pounds of food. There is usually 2 boxes of cereal, two vegetables, 2 fruits, a fruit juice, shelf stable milk, pasta or rice and a canned meat in the box. The items in the boxes change monthly. To qualify for a Commodity Food box you must be over 60 years of age or disabled. Your household income for one person must be at or below \$1,632 per month and for two people it must be at or below \$2,215.



We will not have Bible study in January or February. We will resume in March.

WELCA will feature their activities at church during the potluck dinner on January 5.



**EVERY THURSDAY
10:00 AM**

As you may know, our beloved Yoga Instructor Jackie is moving to Columbus and will no longer be able to lead us. After looking for another instructor, and being unable to find one to lead us we have decided to try using DVDs. We have ordered DVDs from two different professional instructors and we will try using them on Thursday mornings. This will still give us the opportunity to gather together for Yoga while supporting each other, instead of trying to do it at home alone. Come join us for a stimulating time of exercise and tension relief.



Did You Know?

Each year our sanctuary is decorated with Chrismons placed on an evergreen tree, but do you know how they started? The word “Chrismon” draws from the words “Christ” and “monogram,” translating to “symbols of Christ.” Historically, there have been times when Christians were not free to worship in public, or even acknowledge their faith. These symbols were a way for the followers of Christ to recognize their faith in a more covert way. For example, a symbol like a fish might be used in an underground passageway to point toward a place of worship so visitors would know where to go or simply mark that they were among friends. In 1957, Mrs. Harry W. Spencer of the Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Danville, Virginia, was inspired to use these Christian symbols, or Chrismons, in lieu of colorful balls and non-religious décor on her church’s Christmas tree. Today you’ll find Chrismon trees used in the nave of many churches throughout the country and even the world during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Galilee’s Chrismons have a wonderful history. Most of the Chrismons we still use today were made by charter member Audrey Furman with help from Mrs. Lester Beck and Mrs. Esther Archey. The Chrismons were managed for years by Audrey Furman who repaired them as needed and led the decorating of the tree each year. Before her death she asked her trusty assistant Helen Johnson to take over the care of the Chrismons. Helen indicated that taking care of the Chrismons was her way of showing her love for her Lord. Helen took care of the Chrismons for many years and we are grateful to her for carrying on the tradition that Audrey Furman started that still blesses our Advent and Christmas seasons to this day.

NEW YEAR TRADITIONS

Eat Something Special

- In the southern US black-eyed peas and pork foretell good fortune
- Eating any ring-shaped treat (such as a donut) symbolizes “coming full circle” and leads to good fortune. In Dutch homes fritters called olie bollen are served
- The Irish enjoy pastries called bannocks
- In India and Pakistan rice promises prosperity
- Apples dipped in honey are a Rosh Hashanah tradition
- In Swiss homes, dollops of whipped cream, symbolizing the richness of the year to come are dropped on the floor
- German tradition centers on Pork and Sauerkraut to usher in good fortune










Drink a Beverage

- Wassail, which is the Gaelic term for good health is a drink served in parts of England
- Spiced “hot pint” is the Scottish version of wassail. Traditionally the Scots drank to each other’s prosperity.
- In Holland toasts are made with hot, spiced wine

Give a Gift

- New Year’s Day was once the time to swap presents
- Gifts of gilded nuts or coins marked the start of new year in Rome
- Eggs, the symbol of fertility were exchanged by the Persians
- Early Egyptians traded earthenware flasks
- In Scotland, coal, shortbread and silverware were traditionally exchanged for good luck

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3	4
5 EPIPHANY POT LUCK 11:00 AM 	6 Happy Birthday tomorrow Norma 	7 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	8	9 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 1:30	10	11
12 Happy Birthday Tim 	13 Happy Birthday Rose 	14 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> CHURCH COUNCIL 6:00 PM	15	16 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM 	17	18
19	20 Happy Birthday tomorrow Peg 	21 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	22	23 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> TORNADO SURVIVOR DINNER 6:00	24 Happy Birthday Marlene 	25
26	27 Happy Birthday Darcey 	28 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA & ALANON 7:30 PM	29	30 CHAIR YOGA 10:00 AM <hr/> JOY 5:00	31	