

Grace Notes



Happy New Year! That's how I started last month's article, referring to the new Church Year. I'm starting this month's article the same way, referring to the new calendar year. I pray that 2019 is a year in which our gracious God continues to strengthen your knowledge and trust in His Son Jesus Christ for your salvation.

As a new calendar year begins, the Church Year takes us into a new season as well. We celebrate our Lord's birth among us during the Twelve Days of Christmas from December 25 through January 5. But what does His birth among us mean? And who is this Jesus anyway? The season of Epiphany helps us to answer these questions.

The word "epiphany" means "revealing." That's what happens during this entire season of the Church Year, which begins on January 6. That day, which falls on a Sunday this year, is observed as the Epiphany of Our Lord. On that day, we celebrate the coming of the Magi to Jesus, as He reveals that He is not only the Savior for Israel; He is the Savior for all. That's what we sing every week after receiving Jesus' Body and Blood, in the words of Simeon: "For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel."





As the season of Epiphany continues, our Gospel readings continue to focus us on how Jesus reveals Himself to be our Savior. For that reason, the first Sunday after the Epiphany is always celebrated as the Baptism of Our Lord. As we see Jesus baptized by John in the Jordan River, as we watch the Spirit descend on Jesus as a dove, as we hear the Father proclaim Jesus His beloved Son, Jesus is revealed to us as the One who comes to stand in our place as our Substitute by going to the cross to pay the price for our sin. It's just as John preached and as we still sing prior to Holy Communion: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

For these two Sundays, the color of the paraments remains white, reminding us of the purity and holiness that belongs to Christ which He now gives to us in Word and Sacrament. After these two Sundays, the color changes to green, recalling for us the growth of Jesus' ministry. Each subsequent week, we hear of the things that Jesus did and the things that Jesus taught that further reveal Him as the Savior of the world. We'll hear of His first miracle at the wedding of Cana, where He changed water into wine. We'll hear how He called His first disciples and began to teach them the Word of God. Because Easter falls in late April in 2019, there are more Sundays after the Epiphany this year than some other years. The season concludes on Sunday, March 3, as we observe the Transfiguration of Our Lord. The color changes back to white for that day, reminding us of our Lord's brightly shining glory before we journey with Him to the cross during the season of Lent.

During this holy season of Epiphany, I pray that the Lord would continue to open your eyes and ears to know and trust all the more who He is and what He has done and continues to do for you as your Savior. What St. Paul writes in Ephesians 3:17-19 is a fitting Epiphany prayer: "[I pray] that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." God grant it for each one of us for Jesus' sake. Blessed Epiphany!

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 	2 10am GLLC Chapel	3 6pm LWML 	4 Pastor Away- Family Day	5
6 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion	7 7pm Elders  Elders Meeting	8 9am Pastor Circuit Mtg-Giddings	9 10am GLLC Chapel 6pm Midweek Bible Classes (see below)	10 11am-Bible Study	11 Pastor Away- Family Day	12
13 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 6:30pm Youth Group	14 5pm Piecemakers 7pm LLL  LLL	15	16 10am GLLC Chapel 1pm Ministerial Alliance 6pm Midweek Bible Classes (see below)	17 11am-Bible Study	18 Pastor Away- Family Day	19
20 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 3pm Nursing Home Devotions	21 6pm GLLC Mtg 7pm Evangelism	22	23 10am GLLC Chapel 6pm Midweek Bible Classes (see below)	24 11am-Bible Study NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON 	25 Pastor Away- Family Day	26
27 8:45am Bible Class 10am Worship/Communion 11am Brd of Ed 6:30pm Youth Group	28 8am Braille	29	30 10am GLLC Chapel 6pm Midweek Bible Classes (see below)	31 11am-Bible Study	*MID WEEK SCHEDULE 6:00p Mid Week Meal 6:30p Mid Week Bible Class – All ages	

Grace Lutheran Church

308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: (512) 237-2108
Fax Line: (512) 237-2832

Email address: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com
Web Site: www.glcs.org

Sunday School 8:45 AM
Midweek Classes 8:45 AM
Worship Service 10:00 AM

Grace Lutheran Learning Center

401 Wilkes Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: 512-360-2800
Fax Number: 512-237-5990

Email address: gracelutheranlearn@att.net

We now accept CCMS enrollment

Please feel free to put old or unused toys in our box located in the Narthex

Pastor Timothy Appel

If you need to contact him, his email address is: timothyappel@gmail.com and his home phone number is 512-237-9664, or contact our Office at 512-237-2108. If you are not able to reach either number and it is an emergency, contact your Elder. (Elders list on bulletin board by the Office)

CHURCH OFFICE

Normal hours are 9 to 2 Mon. – Fri. If you need any help from the office i.e., copying documents, record information, info to be put in the bulletin and/or newsletter, etc., please feel free to stop by, call, etc. We are there to provide you with whatever you need from the church office. You may also leave a note in the Secretary's box in the Narthex, and we will get back with you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.



Passengers for Church Van

Benny Hajdik - 979-540-8437 is driving the Church Van for Sunday School and Church Services. If you need transportation, please call by 5:00 pm on Saturday. You may leave a message if no one answers.

Elder(s): Davey Kadlecek
Vince Kaiser
Ushers: Galen Bunte
C. Johannessen
Trustees:
Organist(s): June Parker
Esther Wolff (Sub)
Kim Appel (Sub)
Jan. Altar Guild:
Linda Read
Frances Mynar

Readers:
Jan. 6 Rowan James
Jan. 13 Debbie Higgins
Jan. 20 Philip Appel
Jan. 27 Rose Caldwell

Acolytes:
Jan. 6 Adrian Wolff & Baylor Watson
Jan. 13 Joshua Zimmerhanel & Mackenzie Peres
Jan. 20 Thomas Brown & David Wolff
Jan. 27 Juniper Smith & Marianna Peres



Pre-School/	Mary Lou Oliver/
Kindergarten	Wendy Rohde
1 st /2 nd Grades	Charles Johannessen
3 rd /5 th Grades	Gene Brown
6 th /8 th Grades	June Parker
Adult Classes	Pastor Appel

STILL IN NEED OF SUBTITUTE TEACHERS



Please contact Barb Johannessen at 512-284-0199 if you are interested in this position

MIDWEEK AND CONFIRMATION TEACHERS

Pre-school - K	Kim Appel
1st – 3rd grade	Tim & Ester Wolff
4th - 6th grade	Kristin Appel (June Parker-sub)
7th - 8th grade	Pastor Appel
Adult Class	Ed Randle



January ANNIVERSARIES

- Jan. 9 Andrea & Tommy Oates
- Jan. 10 Carol & Kenneth Wood
- Jan. 19 Mike & Cynthia Davis
- Jan. 20 Sheryl & Jon Pollard



January BIRTHDAYS

- Jan. 3 Makayla Kelt
Marianna Peres
- Jan. 4 Harlye Bonorden
Sandra Kadlecek
- Jan. 5 Johnie Kalina
- Jan. 6 Kerry Becker
- Jan. 7 Angel Wolff
- Jan. 11 Heather Randle
- Jan. 12 Toni Ann Kadlecek
- Jan. 13 Galen Bunte
- Jan. 16 Andrew Hurst
Morgan Wessels
- Jan. 17 Mackie W. Kasper
Benjamin Appel
- Jan. 18 Darlene Becker
Mackenzie Peres
Dusty Randle
- Jan. 19 Hannah Teague
Gracie Deapen
- Jan. 20 Sheryl Pollard
- Jan. 21 Brandon Herschap
- Jan. 24 Jocelyn Kadlecek
Carol Wood
- Jan. 25 Colby Zimmerhanel
- Jan. 26 Jase Geigenmiller
- Jan. 28 Aiden Haught
- Jan. 29 Brantley Pearcy
- Jan. 30 Clara Kaiser
- Jan. 31 Karla Burns

DOLLARS & SENSE

As of, December 28, 2018

Name	Balance
<u>Prosperity Checking Acct</u>	37,878.35
<u>CEF-General</u>	2,392.60
<u>CEF-Land/Youth</u>	12,040.98
<u>CEF Scholarship</u>	12,189.43
<u>CEF Property Loan</u>	138,886.64
<u>CEF Annex Loan</u>	14,594.55
<u>Legacy Deo</u>	11,672.12
<u>Total Dedicated Funds</u>	13,953.88
<u>General Fund Balance</u>	23,924.47

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear correctly, please contact the church office so we can correct our files. Thank you.

May God bless you and keep you always in His tender, loving care



In the Hospital

If you are admitted to the hospital, I would like to visit you in order to share God's Word and share a prayer with you in that difficult time. As you are able please let the church office know or ask the hospital to call the church office so that I can best minister to you. **Pastor Appel**

Wishing these Friends a Happy Birthday! from your "Grace" family



There is a plastic container in the Narthex for collection of **used bulletins & white printed papers** to be recycled at the Smithville Recycling facility. If there are any questions please ask Katie or John Stelling for info



PIECEMAKERS

We meet each month to tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We meet at 5pm in the Sunday School building, alley entrance. We usually work until about 7. All are welcome. Tying a knot is the only skill you need. Our next session is January 14th at 5pm.



Braille volunteers meet the 4th Monday of each month @ 8am. We carpool to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings to assemble braille bible study books. **Toni Ann Kadlecek**



The BAE is closed from December 23 until January 7. We will be accepting donations again on that date.

Grace and First Presbyterian will work the week of January 14 through the 19th. Hours are 10 to 2 Monday through Thursday and 9 to 2 on Friday and Saturday. Join us as you are able

We appreciate the donations which we receive and we are grateful to all our shoppers who allow us to give back to the community.



GLLC Learning Center

WORK AT GLLC

Grace Lutheran Learning Center is hiring part-time workers for the afternoon shift. Applicants should be available to work between 12:30-6:00 PM, must have a high school diploma or equivalent, and be willing to submit to a background check. If you love working with kids and sharing the love of Jesus, this is the job for you! Please contact our director, **Angel Hurst**, at [512-360-2800](tel:512-360-2800) to receive an application



ALL invited to lunch/game day THURSDAYS at NOON
In the Parish Hall

We meet at noon in the Parish hall. We have a lite meal. All our welcome to join us for a spirited game of train. If you don't know how to play--not a problem. We will help. We play for the fellowship and don't play for points



Here is another weekday opportunity for you to gather with fellow Christians here at Grace and study God's Word! Pastor Appel is leading a Bible study on the Small Catechism from 11 AM-Noon every Thursday morning in the parish hall. Come and refresh your memory on everything you learned as a youth during confirmation classes. Bring your Bible and your Small Catechism; if you don't have either one of those items, please let Pastor know and he'll be glad to get you one! If you have any questions, please see Pastor Appel.



Two Germany Trip Opportunities in 2020

In 2020, the city of Oberammergau, Germany, will be holding its world-renowned Passion Play that happens only every ten years. Two central Texas pastors are leading tours in 2020 that will include not only this Passion Play, but also a variety of Luther sites. Pastor Obersat of Ebenezer, Manheim, is leading a tour in May 2020, and Pastor Barz of Crown of Life, San Antonio, is leading a tour in July 2020. Information concerning both of these tours is available in the narthex for anyone who is interested.



The ladies of Grace and guests are invited to attend our next meeting on January 3rd at 6:00p. We meet in the Parish Hall and start with a meal, Bible Study and a business meeting



Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

REMEMBER!!!! The FIRST Sunday of every month is Sunday School Mission Sunday. Our Sunday School Mission for this quarter is The Refuge Rescue Ranch in Bastrop, for young girls who have fallen victim to human trafficking of all types. Please remember to give generously the first Sunday of every month to help support this great cause.

We would like to THANK Cheryl Moors for once again taking on the challenge of the Christmas Play. She did a very good job, as always, the play was very enjoyable. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the play for our young children to participate and help tell the story of our Savior Jesus Christ. If you were not able to participate or attend this year, I would like to encourage you to schedule it in your busy life for next year. I believe that everyone benefits and enjoys this event.

We will be working on our Challenge questions and welcome all of you to participate. The youth are definitely keeping up with who participates the most.

May God Bless all of you.

Respectfully,

Barb Johannessen

2019 MIDWEEK DATES

The following Wednesdays are the dates for our midweek classes this year. Our regular midweek schedule consists of a light meal at 6:00 PM, followed by classes for all ages from 6:30-7:30. Dates marked with an asterisk (*) occur during Advent and Lent, when we have midweek worship services at 7 PM. During this season of the Church Year, midweek classes will begin at 5:30 PM and end at 6:15 PM so that parents and children still have the opportunity to eat at the soup suppers before services.

Sharon Reinberg will once again be coordinating and cooking midweek meals. Contributions are needed to assist with the cost; please designate your offering toward midweek meals and bring it to the office during the week or place it in the plate on Sunday morning. Please plan to participate in our midweek classes this year; it is an excellent opportunity for all of us to grow together in a deeper understanding and appreciation of our Christian faith.



January 9, 2019	February 6, 2019	*March 6, 2019	*April 10, 2019
January 16, 2019	February 13, 2019	*March 13, 2019	April 24, 2019
January 23, 2019	February 20, 2019	*March 27, 2019	May 1, 2019
January 30, 2019	February 27, 2019	*April 3, 2019	



Faith Lutheran High School of Central Texas seeks to engage young adults in a Christ-centered environment where faith and knowledge grow as one.

HOME OF THE FALCONS!

End of Year Giving

Thank you for your support of Faith Lutheran High School during our End of Year giving. We didn't quite make our goal of \$50,000, however we are still thankfully accepting donations to support the ministry at FLHS. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

New Student Registration

Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to February 1, 2019 will have registration fees waived for the 2019-2020 school year. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at www.faithlutheranhighschool.com.

Shadow Days

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

Thank you!

There have been so many people, organizations, groups and churches who have contributed to the success and growth of FLHS over the last few months. We are so incredibly blessed! THANK YOU!!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

Raffle Items

The Spring Raffle is just around the corner. The Board of Directors is currently looking for valuable items or monetary donations to be used in the raffle. Please contact Nikki Kueck if you have something to donate!

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday beginning at 10:30 am. Our teachers and local association pastors will be leading us in worship throughout the year.

Yard Signs Available

Show your support of FLHS by placing a sign in your yard. New single sided signs are now available. There is no cost to you to obtain one! Come by and pick one up today! (*Donations are accepted to offset cost.)

Scholarship Program

Have you ever had this thought? "Faith Lutheran High School sounds great, but my family can't afford it." We firmly believe that EVERY family desiring a Christ-centered education for their children should have the opportunity to attend FLHS. We have a Tuition Scholarship Program with funds available, and EVERY family who applies (through TADS) will receive some assistance. We'll do everything in our power to make sure that money isn't the reason you don't choose FLHS.

Keep in Touch

Stop by school and say "Hi," explore what the students are learning in classes and learn more about FLHS. Find and follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube or Twitter - like and share our posts. Also, visit our website at www.faithlutheranhighschool.com!

Read Through the Bible in 2019

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

"God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!" Continue your daily Bible reading during 2019. God's blessings for you in His Word abound! (Note: On days listed as "OFF," consider re-reading something from earlier in the week or making up a day that you might have missed.)

Readings for the Month of January

January 1	John 1	Genesis 1-3
January 2	John 2	Genesis 4-5
January 3	John 3	Genesis 6-9
January 4	John 4:1-26	Genesis 10-11
January 5	John 4:27-54	Genesis 12-15
January 6	Proverbs 1:1-19	Psalms 1-5
January 7	OFF	
January 8	John 5:1-30	Genesis 16-18
January 9	John 5:31-47	Genesis 19-21
January 10	John 6:1-40	Genesis 22-23
January 11	John 6:41-71	Genesis 24-25
January 12	John 7:1-31	Genesis 26
January 13	Proverbs 1:20-33	Psalms 6-9
January 14	OFF	
January 15	John 7:32-8:11	Genesis 27-30
January 16	John 8:12-47	Genesis 31
January 17	John 8:48-59	Genesis 32-33
January 18	John 9	Genesis 34-35
January 19	John 10	Genesis 36-38
January 20	Proverbs 2:1-11	Psalms 10-14
January 21	OFF	
January 22	John 11:1-16	Genesis 39-40
January 23	John 11:17-57	Genesis 41-42
January 24	John 12:1-19	Genesis 43-44
January 25	John 12:20-50	Genesis 45-47
January 26	John 13	Genesis 48-50
January 27	Proverbs 2:12-22	Psalms 15-18
January 28	OFF	
January 29	John 14	Isaiah 1-4
January 30	John 15:1-16:4	Isaiah 5-8
January 31	John 16:5-33	Isaiah 9-11