

# Grace Notes



The month of January provides several opportunities for Christians to give thanks to God for the lives of His people throughout the ages. It is a New Year, but the Lord's blessings still come to us in His Holy Word, as they always have. I'll highlight three important celebrations of the Church Year during the month of the January that will help you stay grounded in His Word.

On January 1, the Church celebrates the Circumcision and Name of Jesus. This account is given in Luke 2:21, "And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb." Already as an eight-day old boy, Jesus fulfills the Law in the place of sinners (Galatians 4:4-7). As He does so, He sheds His blood. This is the first, but not the last, time that Jesus does this for sinners. In shedding His blood in the place of sinners, Jesus rightly receives His name, for He is the One to save us from our sins (Matthew 1:21). Because Jesus has fulfilled the Law perfectly and shed His blood in our place, we are saved by His grace through faith in Him. His righteousness covers us perfectly, not by circumcision, but by the washing of water and Word in Holy Baptism (Colossians 2:11). On January 1, begin the New Year by giving thanks for the name of Jesus that has been placed upon you in Holy Baptism.

On January 6, the Church observes the Epiphany of Our Lord. The word "epiphany" means "revealing." On this day, we remember how Jesus was revealed as the Savior for all nations when the Magi visited Him with their gifts. Jesus is not only the "King of the Jews" (Matthew 2:2); He is the King over all (Matthew 28:18). These most unlikely visitors learned from God's Word (Matthew 2:5-6) and the guiding of the Lord's star (Matthew 2:9) that the Savior had been born for them in Bethlehem, and so they went to worship Him with





great joy. On January 6, read Matthew 2:1-12 and give thanks that God has revealed Jesus to be your Savior as you go to worship Him with great joy every week in the Divine Service.

On January 18, the Church gives thanks for the Confession of St. Peter. Jesus asked His apostles the question about Himself that all people finally must answer: "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15). Simon Peter answered for the whole group: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). This was not born out of Peter's own imagination; God the Father had brought about this faith. This faith, this confession, is the rock upon which Jesus builds His Church. Not even hell can stand against this faith, for this faith rests upon Jesus alone. All who confess this faith find an open heaven, but all who deny this faith find eternal life locked to them. On January 18, read Matthew 16:13-19, give thanks to God that He has given you the same trust as St. Peter, and pray for opportunities to confess that faith boldly before the world.

This month also includes a notable string of three consecutive days in which we give thanks for St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor (January 24; read 1 Timothy 6:11-16), the Conversion of St. Paul (January 25; read Acts 9:1-22), and St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor (January 26; read Titus 1:1-9). During this New Year, ask the Lord for strength to continue more steadfastly in hearing and reading His Word, not just on Sunday mornings, but throughout the week. I pray that the Lord richly blesses you through the accounts and examples of His faithful saints, men and women whom He has forgiven by His blood.

In Christ,  
**Pastor Appel**

# January 2020

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

**Grace Lutheran Church**

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

Email address: [gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.glcs.org](http://www.glcs.org)

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

**Elder(s):** Davey Kadlecek  
Galen Bunte

**Ushers:** Vince Kaiser  
C. Johannessen

**Trustees:**

**Organist(s):**  
June Parker  
Esther Wolff  
Kim Appel  
Ruth Eaton

**Jan. Altar Guild:**  
Toni Ann Kadlecek  
Sharon Reinberg

**Acolytes:**

Jan. 5 Thomas Brown & Jacob Moore  
Jan. 12 Marianna Peres & Juniper Smith  
Jan. 19 Joshua Zimmerhanel & David Wolff  
Jan. 16 Ramon Wolff & Baylor Watson



Pre-School/ Mary Lou Oliver/  
Kindergarten Wendy Rohde  
1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grades Charles Johannessen  
3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grades Gene Brown  
6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**MIDWEEK AND CONFIRMATION TEACHERS**

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

**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**

# 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. 12 Toni Ann Kadlecek
- Jan. 13 Galen Bunte
- Jan. 16 Andrew Hurst
- Jan. 17 Mackie W. Kasper  
Benjamin Appel
- Jan. 18 Darlene Becker  
Mackenzie Peres  
Dusty Randle
- Jan. 19 Hannah Teague
- Jan. 20 Sheryl Pollard
- Jan. 21 Brandon Herschap
- Jan. 24 Jocelyn Kadlecek  
Carol Wood
- Jan. 25 Colby Zimmerhanel
- Jan. 26 Jase Geigenmiller
- Jan. 29 Brantley Percy  
Kolt Pietsch
- Jan. 30 Clara Kaiser
- Jan. 31 Karla Burns

## DOLLARS & SENSE

As of, 2019

<u>Name</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Prosperity Checking Acct</u>	
<u>CEF-General</u>	
<u>CEF-Land/Youth</u>	
<u>CEF Scholarship</u>	
<u>CEF Property Loan</u>	
<u>Legacy Deo</u>	
<u>Total Dedicated Funds</u>	
<u>General Fund Balance</u>	

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



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

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**

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

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



Dear members of Grace,  
Thank you for your generous Christmas gift to our family this year! We are extremely humbled to be a part of such a loving group of Christians here at Grace. We look forward to working with you and among you to further the kingdom of God here in this place. God bless you all!  
In Christ,  
**Pastor, Kristin, Benjamin, Noah, Matthew, and Caleb Appel.**



**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



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 book of Exodus from 11 AM-Noon most Thursday mornings (check the calendar for days we don't meet) in the parish hall. Please join us to hear and study this wonderful history of God's salvation for His people!

After Thursday morning Bible study, we stay in the parish hall and join together for a lite meal. All our welcome to join us for the meal and a spirited game of train afterwards. 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

**Pastor Appel Hosts Radio Bible Study**

Pastor Appel is now the host of the radio Bible study, *Sharper Iron*. This program airs every weekday morning from 8:00-9:00 AM on KFUO, a Lutheran radio station out

of St. Louis, MO. You can listen live on your computer or laptop by going to [www.kfu.org](http://www.kfu.org), or on your tablet or smartphone by downloading the KFUO app. If you miss the show in the morning, you can also listen to archived programs on the KFUO website. Please consider making use of this Bible study as a way to strengthen your Christian faith during the week!



We continue to be blessed with bountiful donations. December awards for Grant's were made and we were able to fund the following:

- Bastrop county Child Welfare Board
- Bastrop Pregnancy Resource Center
- The Refuge for DMST
- Serenity Star
- Smithville Food Pantry
- Smithville Ministerial Alliance
- Smithville Recreation Center
- Society of St Vincent DePaul

Many thanks for our donors and shoppers. But we could not do it without our army of loyal volunteers. We remain all volunteers.

The store is closed from December 22 to January 6. No donations accepted

Grace will work the following:

- February 3 through February 8
- March 16 to March 21
- May 4 to May 9
- June 22 to June 27
- August 10 to August 15
- September 28 to October 3
- November 9 to November 14

Not counting holiday closures we will be on a five week rotation

Join us as you are able. We work 10 to 2 Monday through Thursday. 9 to 2 on Friday and Saturday. We appreciate any and all volunteers.



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**



**PIECEMAKERS**

We meet each month to tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We will resume our schedule for January. We will be meeting on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. All are welcome. Join us as you are able.



**Board of Education**  
Sunday School  
Midweek News

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

A special thank you to all that helped with the children's Christmas Story. As we all know change is difficult. It was difficult for Joseph to know what to do with Mary's news about baby Jesus, as it was difficult for the Board of Education to make the decision to change the Children's Christmas Story to a date different than Christmas Eve. Like Joseph we prayed for the right decision and after much debate and prayer we made the decision to move to Sunday morning before Christmas during Sunday School. The story was a success and I believe that the Children enjoyed telling us the story. We had 5 families respond to our letter asking for opinions to this decision which made it even more difficult to make a decision. All that said the children that participated did a great job and we look forward to this new tradition in years to come. Thank you again to Cheryl Moore for directing!! GREAT JOB!!!

**REMEMBER!!!! The FIRST Sunday of every month is Sunday School Mission Sunday.** We will be choosing a new mission at our next meeting in January.

**CHALLENGE!!!!**

We would like to Thank everyone who continues to participate in the weekly challenge and encourage each of you to continue to participate weekly by answering the question in the back of the bulletin. We as a board feel it is important to educate each other on what Christ did for us and continues to do for us. If there is anything you would like to see done differently, we are always open to suggestion.

We would also like to Thank Becky Watson for the years and time that she dedicated to the Board of Education. And we look forward to June Parker joining us.

May God Bless all of you.

Respectfully,

**Barb Johannessen**



**2020 Trip to Israel Opportunity**

Beloved in the Lord Jesus, you are invited to join me (on my 24<sup>th</sup> tour), a native of Israel, born in Nazareth on a Journey to the Holy Land—Israel for an experience of a lifetime. *We will depart from Chicago on August 24 and return on September 5, 2020...walk where Jesus walked...where every page of the Bible is seen in its original context alive...cruise the Sea of Galilee...climb the Mount of Olives and view the Old City of Jerusalem...visit Tabgha, scene of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes...the Mount of Beatitudes, site of the Sermon on the Mount and where Jesus chose His Twelve Apostles...walk the Via Dolorosa (Road of Suffering) to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher...stroll in the Garden of Gethsemane...visit Bethlehem...the Church of the Nativity and much more.*

What to expect: During this 13-day tour, you will experience the sounds, smells and sights of two civilizations the old and the new. You will stand at the cross roads of history and feel the vibrant influence of how this land shapes all other lands.

We will do more than just visit sights. We will go off the beaten path and have personal and daily devotions. The Bible will be our map and guide. Experience the Holy Land—a place like no other. Please join me on this blessed adventure

The price is \$4, 000.00 p/p includes: air fare from Chicago to Tel Aviv and back to Chicago, hotel accommodations (for double occupancy) tips, entry fees and all meals.

***For further information contact:***

Pastor Nabil Nour

46448 263rd St.

Hartford, SD 57033

605-526-3571 (O)

605-201-6998 (Cell)

[preacherfootwasher@gmail.com](mailto:preacherfootwasher@gmail.com)



# LWML

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

**UPCOMING:**

**Jan. 2**  
Regular Business Meeting

We welcome you to join us in “Serving the Lord with Gladness.” Please contact any LWML member or Sharon Reinberg at 512-923-8222 to learn more or go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) or [www.lwmltxdist.org](http://www.lwmltxdist.org) to read about the mission and great history of LWML.

At the Fall Rally in Schulenburg on October 6, our Texas District President, Debbie Curry was the keynote speaker.

**Nov. Meeting Agenda:**

Topic: 12 days of Christmas – June Parker  
Meal: Linda Read & June Parker  
Bring your yearbook for updates

**Donations to the large Mite Box in the Narthex are joyfully accepted.**

**LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:**

The theme for the June LWML convention in Corpus Christi-Christ is our anchor.

Mission grant balance: \$37,750

**National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:**

**Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus for Guatemala (\$100,000)**

While Guatemala is a beautiful country, many people suffer in extreme poverty. Over 50% of the children are malnourished and have no access to any form of medical or dental care. Most have no pre-natal or post-natal care and often die from preventable diseases. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hood River, Oregon and the Lutheran Church of Guatemala have partnered together to share God’s physical and spiritual healing with as many souls as possible. They have developed a network of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod partner churches to send medical professionals and mission teams to Guatemala on short term medical mission trips. In order to reach these isolated villages they need the right tool, namely a Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus. The funds will be used to purchase and retrofit a bus with medical equipment. Bible school equipment will also be purchased enabling the teams to heal both the physical and spiritual needs of the Guatemalan children. While the physicians tend to their physical needs, the ministers and lay leaders go into the villages and set up bible classes, VBS and worship services. Child Beyond International will continue to financially support this ministry.



The Widow’s Mite --- And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” Mark 12:42-44 ESV



*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!**

### **“Faith at Christmas” Program**

#### **Thank you!**

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

### **End of Year Giving**

Thank you for your support of Faith Lutheran High School during our End of Year giving. If the holiday season was just too busy or you simply forgot, 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.

### **Wish List**

FLHS has created a wish list on Amazon, containing ongoing needs. The easiest way to get to it is by clicking on the link on either the FLHS Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support!

### **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.

### **Thrivent Action Team Grants**

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact us. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school.

### **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. We utilize TADS to disburse these scholarship funds, and EVERY family who applies receives some assistance. We'll do everything in our power to make sure that money isn't the reason you don't choose FLHS. **In today's increasingly hostile, non-Christian society, you can't afford to NOT send your child to FLHS!**

### **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.

### **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. Faith is looking for individuals or families who share in our commitment to Lutheran Education and asking that you would support our ministry through a one-time gift, establish a monthly giving plan, or set up an enduring gift. To learn more about these options, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

### **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](http://www.faithlutheranhighschool.com)!



# Read Through the Bible in 2020

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