



Faith Lutheran Church

Receiving and Sharing the Love of Christ
January 2022 Newsletter

From the Pastor ...

New Year – New Creation

“From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation ...” 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

It is not easy to celebrate a new year when it seems that nothing has really changed except the strain of the virus that fuels the global pandemic. Christmas has come and gone. The celebration of the new year was muted by the reality of the ongoing challenges of daily life. Little that has happened in the natural order has inspired feelings of newness. Fortunately, neither our natural feelings of great joy or sorrow determine the course of our life. We are not a new creation because we look like it or feel like it now.

The unbelieving world does not recognize what God has done in the birth of Jesus. As the children of God we have been given new life by the power of the Holy Spirit at work in Holy Baptism. Jesus joined Himself to all of humanity in the water of the Jordan River. Jesus assured John the Baptist – *“Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”* (Matthew 3:15) We have been joined to Jesus in the water and the Word of the Gospel at the baptismal font. The Holy Spirit assures us through the words of the apostle Paul – *“We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”* (Romans 6:4) We are a new creation because God says so! Baptismal life calls us to daily contrition and repentance – the “drowning” of old Adam and Eve in us. We believe and trust that we emerge daily by God’s grace in Christ as new men and new women in the forgiveness of our sins.

God has blessed Faith Lutheran Church to believe, teach, and practice the Confessional truth of His renewing power in the Gospel for 60 years. At the end of this month we will gather to acknowledge the gift of new life in Christ and the enduring opportunity to serve Him in the ministry of the Gospel. In faith, we reject the notion of being stuck in a dark world. In the season of Epiphany, we embrace our identity as *“... a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of the darkness into His marvelous light.”* (1 Peter 2:9)

God invites us to see the new things that He is doing among us. We see new people in worship. We value new opportunities to witness Christ in word and deed. We look forward to the new day in the blessed hope of life eternal in the Savior. Come celebrate the new creation with us on January 30!

Pastor Ed Auger

JANUARY SERMONS

January 2 – “The Things of My Father” Luke 2:40-52

January 9 – “A New Beginning” Luke 3:15-22

January 16 – “A Feast to Remember” John 2:1-11

January 23 – “Promise Fulfilled” Luke 4:16-30

January 30 – “Graceful Authority” Luke 4:31-44

Contact Us At:

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254-968-2710

Website: faithlutheranstephenville.com

Email: church.office@faithlutheranstephenville.com

Remembering Christmas with Faith children and youth . . .



The Christmas Tree

Through one tree came sin and death;
Now the world was broken!
Through one tree came life and breath:
God Himself has spoken!
Thank You, Jesus, for Your grace.
I will see You face-to-face!



The Lights

Sometimes, sin is like the night:
Dark and even lonely.
But our Savior is the light:
We can trust Him only.
Thank You, Jesus; light the way;
You take all our fear away!



The Manger

In a manger, Jesus lay,
Born to be a blessing!
What did all those shepherds say,
Joyfully confessing?
Thank You, Jesus, Lamb of God,
Sleeping where the cattle nod.





The Angel

Gloria! The angels sang,
Shining with God's glory.
All the skies with music rang
As they told their story.
Thank You, Jesus, God on high,
Sent for us to live and die.



The Star

In the skies, a Christmas star
Shone for all creation.
All could see it from afar:
Christ came for each nation!
Thank you Jesus, for Your love;
Bring us all to You above.



The Board for Christian Education strives to nurture, strengthen, and sustain the family of Faith through the study of the Word of God.

From the Faith School Director

Happy New Year!!

Exciting things are always happening at Faith School but this month, we started on the playground construction! It goes without saying, the old playground had served its time! Over the years, we have had many updates on the old playground but far more memories were made on that playground for families of the school, church and community.

I feel very blessed we are able to have this new playground to enjoy for years to come!

I want to personally say a huge thank you for the love offering that was given to me and my family during the holidays!

Blessing on your New Year,

Lauren Johnson

*Train up a child in the way he should go: And when he is old,
he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6*



Old Primary Playground
Structure



Artist's rendition of
new primary
playground structure &
new firehouse feature



Mission of the Month:

Choices Clinic & Life Resources Center

Mission Statement: Choices Life Resource Center is a Christian ministry dedicated to preserving the value of human life by providing abortion alternatives, practical assistance and education to the Cross Timbers area.

As Faith prepares to celebrate Sanctity of Life Sunday, we are once again partnering with Choices Clinic & Life Resource Center in January to provide prayer support and financial assistance. The Change for Life baby bottle campaign will begin on January 16 and continue through February 27. Please remember to pick up your baby bottle and help support Choices' ongoing ministry efforts in our community.

Choices offers a wide variety of free services and programs to people in our community including pregnancy tests, limited ultrasound, material assistance, and pregnancy support classes covering topics like parenting, life skills, relationships and the Bible. Choices also offers group support study and individual support sessions to men and women suffering from abortion trauma, women impacted by abuse and to those seeking a growing relationship with Christ.

It's All About Choices

God chose humankind in Christ Jesus. God chose you with the celebration of a wedding (John 2:11). God chose you with the love a husband has for his bride (Isaiah 62:4-5). God chose you and all offspring of Adam and Eve (Psalm 128:3). God chose you and every variety of human being, chose us into existence, chose us with forgiveness, chose us for making a difference (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

An effective for life message is one that is spoken with truth in love.

www.lutheransforlife.org, 2022

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Thank You to my dear Faith family for the Love Offering gift as well as all the other treats and gifts you gave to Jeff and me this Christmas. Thanks for your continued support and love to me and my family. God's blessings to you. ~
Lisa Stroebel

THANK YOU so very much for the most gracious Love Offering gift. Cindy and I greatly appreciate it and all the other loving deeds you all have done for us and my parents since we moved to Stephenville seven years ago. We feel loved and part of your family. May our Glorious God bless you in the New Year! –
Arnold Ramming, Music Director

Thank you Faith Family for the generous love offering, greetings, and gifts that we received during the Advent and Christmas season. We are grateful for the opportunity to share the faith journey with you all by God's grace in the Savior.
Epiphany blessings! Pastor Ed Auger



Congregation members are encouraged to RSVP, so the Anniversary Committee can plan accordingly.



Check the church bulletin board for the Sign-up Sheet to volunteer to provide side dishes.

Brisket, Smoked Chicken, Smothered Green Beans & Cream Corn will be provided.



Stephen Ministry

OUR HAPPY NEW YEARS PRAYER – PLEASE JOIN US

Gracious God, we lift up our Stephen Ministry in prayer today. Grant wisdom and discernment to our **Stephen Leaders** as they guide others in this ministry. Grant patience and compassion to our **Stephen Ministers** as they faithfully meet with their care receivers each week. Grant healing and peace to the **care receivers** as they courageously confront the turmoil in their lives. Grant open hearts to **all others** who are facing struggles so that they have the courage to seek and accept the help they need. Open the eyes and ears of **all of us** so that we might recognize those who are hurting in our midst and reach out to them in love. Help us to make **Faith Lutheran Church** the caring and loving community you have called us to be. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Think about how we can serve you and contact: Pastor Ed, Everett Seider or Sherre West

Mission of the Month 2021

For the year, the following are total gifts from Faith Lutheran to our Mission of the Month partners is \$18,867.28:

Choices Clinic -- \$2,326.50

LeadaChild -- \$1,293.87

CASA -- \$1,564.00

Breadbox -- \$1,867.32

Homelessness H.E.L.P. -- \$1,437.21

MOST Ministries -- \$1,339.51

Faith Comes by Hearing -- \$1,842.06

LCMS Disaster Relief for Haiti -- \$1,736.22

Lutheran Indian Ministries -- \$1,421.40

Honduras FORO -- \$1,289.80

Thanksgiving Baskets & H.O.P.E. Food Pantry -- \$2,449.39 + 564 pounds of food

Angel Tree – 13 children (65 gifts) + \$300.00 free-will offerings (4% church tithe not included)

Thank you for your generosity!



One of the best suggestions about a Happy New Year is to remember that “Wise Men and Women Still Follow Him.” Celebrating following Jesus is something we at LWML want to encourage this month. Our LWML monthly business meeting will be on January 10 at 6:00PM in Room 6. The major emphasis will be our plans for our MITE Sunday and celebration program.

LWML Texas District Vice President of Gospel Outreach Joy Cowan will present a video program and update on each of the Texas Mission Grants. On January 23 after second service, we will serve lunch in the Narthex and enjoy meeting and hearing from Joy about the many ways people have been helped with MITE contributions. Babysitting will be available. We hope all ladies will plan to come for the fellowship!

Our Ladies' Bible study on **CHOSEN** will continue this month on January 15 at 10:00AM in Room 6. There will be an opportunity to help with the scheduled “Work Day” that morning at Faith before we meet for the Bible study.

Ring in 2022 with LWML as we follow Him who loves us so much and call us His own!



The Bulletin Board

January Bulletin Folders

01/02 Paula Hymer	01/23 Lynann Simpson
01/09 Trudy Carlson	01/30 Lynann Simpson
01/16 Sue Angerhofer	



Serving in January
Marilyn Pack

January Anniversaries

01/01 Matt & Leslie Hallgarth
01/15 Mark & Tammy Cogburn



Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 16, 2022

Pick up a "Change for Life" baby bottle

Copies of the Church Constitution, Church Council Reports and Financial Reports are available in the church office.



Get Connected

Donate altar flowers; Join the brunch rotation;
Serve as an usher; Volunteer to be a Greeter;
Sing with the Choir; Connect with Altar Guild

FREE Notary Public Service

Cindy Stafford – (254) 592-6630

From the Office – If you are not receiving weekly updates, Scripture readings and other church-related information, please contact Lisa Stroebel at 968-2710, to be added to the church contact list.
Thank you.

Altar Flowers for January

01/02 Open	01/23 Open
01/09 Open	01/30 Open
01/16 Angerhofer Family	

(To donate flowers, sign up on the
chart by the church kitchen)



January Brunch Schedule

(provide a snack item, serve & clean up)

2nd	No Brunch; Alternate Schedule		
9th	Stroebel	Quade	Harpole
16th	Cameron	Keilers	Small
23rd	Bills	Peiser	Angerhofer
30th	No Brunch; Alternate Schedule		

60th Anniversary Celebration – January 30

Faith Lutheran's Elders

Everett Seider, Head Elder
Barry Harpole
Will Lansmon
Jeff Stroebel
Ronnie Tate

(Elder care lists are posted on the bulletin board)

LCMS NEWS: It is possible to stay connected to the goings on within the Texas District of the LCMS. Check out the articles on the District's website at <https://www.lcms.org/news>. If you do not have internet access, you can stay connected through the *Lutheran Witness* magazine. The church office has three copies available to borrow.



Like us on facebook at
FaithLutheranStephenville




Church Office Hours

The church office observes the following hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:30am – 5:30pm
(closed 12:30-1:30pm for lunch)
Friday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: Reverend Ed Auger, Pastor 8:00am First Service w/ Holy Communion 9:15am Brunch 9:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:45am Second Service w/ Holy Communion			* Denotes Birthday Building Rental: Tuesdays/Thursdays 6:00pm in Family Center Linne/Dupre Attending Jan. 11 & 13		Building Rental: Mondays/Wednesdays 6:00pm in Family Center Westbrook Attending Jan. 12,17,19,24,26,31	1
2 *James Synatzske 9:00am Sunday School 10:15am Combined Worship	3 5:00pm Delta Kappa Gamma~Narthex 6:00pm Board of Evnglsm~Pastor's Office 6:00pm Board of Ed. Mtng~Library	4 5:30pm 60 th Annvrsry Committee Mtng~Nrthx 6:30pm 1 st Year Confirmation~Library 6:30pm Board of Stewardship~Nrthx	5 No Children's Music Class 6:30pm Confirmation Class~ Library	6 Epiphany *Adelaide Ashley 6:45 Choir Rehearsal~ Sanct.	7 *Erika Barlow MOW~Simpson 6:00pm Undecorate the Narthex/ Sanctuary	8
9 *Darleene Hufstutler 12:00pm Board of Trustee Mtng.~Narthex 4:45pm Stephen Ministry Facilitator Mtng~Rm 6 5:30pm Stephen Ministry Mtng~Room 6	10 5:30pm Faith School Board Meeting~Rm 9 6:00pm LWML Business Mtng~Rm 6 6:30pm Elder's Mtng~Lbry	11 *Kason Seider 6:30pm 1 st Year Confirmation~Library	12 No Children's Music Class 6:30pm 1 st Year Confirmation~Library	13 6:45 Choir Rehearsal~ Sanctry	14 MOW~Small	15 8:30am Church Workday 10:00am LWML Bible Study~Rm 6
16 Sanctity of Life Sunday Change for Life Baby Bottle Campaign Begins 	17	18 *Sarah Franz *Gladys Sundbeck 5:30pm 60 th Anniversary Committee Mtng~Nrthx	19 *Cheryl Hatton 4:30pm Children's Music Class~Nrthx	20 *Cary Strohmeier 6:45 Choir Rehearsal~ Sanctry	21 *Mark Cogburn MOW~Sparkman	22 *John Quade
23 LWML Mite Box Sunday w/Lunch & Spkr. *Eli Espinoza *Matt Hallgarth *Sloan Weber 4:45pm Stephen Ministry Facilitator Mtng~Rm 6 5:30pm Stephen Ministry Mtng~Rm 6	24	25 *Nora Espinoza *Jason Young 6:30pm 1 st Year Confirmation~Library	26 4:30pm Children's Music Class~Nrthx 6:30pm 1 st Year Confirmation~Library	27 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal~Sanct.	28 *Chuck Hamaker MOW~Pack	29 *Lindsay Laurent *Ricky Osterloh Decorate for 60 th Anniversary Event
30 Faith's 60th Annvrsry. 9:00am Sunday School 10:15am Worship 4:00pm Worship 5:30pm Meal/Fellowship	31 *Elliott Nehring *Ethan Nehring	(Worship services online at www.faithlutheranstephenville.com)				