

# *The Light of St. John*

St. John's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 38

Deanville, TX 77852

**"I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE." (JOHN 14:6)**



The Light of St. John  
Published monthly at  
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2nd to the last Sunday of each month

# The Light of St. John's January, 2021

*"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"  
(which means "God with us"). Matthew 1:23*

Among the most reassuring promises of Scripture are the "I-Am-With-You" promises. They begin in Genesis where God says to Isaac, *"Fear not, for I am with you."* (Genesis 26:24). And they reach their fulfillment in the gospels where we learn that Jesus is *"God with us."*

The Church celebrates Christmas Day on December 25 of each year. This date is just a few days after the winter solstice which marks the first day of winter. It is interesting to note that the first day of winter is the darkest day of the year, meaning it is the shortest day and the longest night in terms of actual sunlight. We celebrate the birth of Jesus at this time of the year as it reminds us that in the midst of our darkness, God has entered our existence. In fact, Jesus was born during a time of great political and moral turmoil. It was during the height of the Roman Empire and spiritual darkness was the way of society.

Fast forward to the new year of 2021. It too is a time of political turmoil in our country. It is a time of chaos and moral decay. We are still dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, and there is much to fear when you look at the circumstances of the time in which we live. But we are reminded that Jesus is with us. He came into this sinful, fallen world so that he could give up his life to redeem us. By his death, he has conquered the world. And his final promise to us is, *"Lo, I am with you always"*. (Matthew 28:20).

The year 2020 was a difficult year. We don't know what the year 2021 will bring. The good news is a vaccine is already being distributed which will be available to most of us in late spring. But regardless of what the year brings, we fear not for Christ is with us always. He sustains us in times like these.

May we remember throughout the year 2021 the promise of Immanuel. God is with us.

Blessings,

**Terry**



## ***SERVING IN JANUARY***

**Kitchen:**

**Altar: Debby Schumacher**

**Usher: Marsha Kocurek (Council Member)**

### **FLOWERS**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Poinsettias**

**10<sup>th</sup> Beverly Blinka (memory of Mary Maresh)**

**17<sup>th</sup> LW and Carol Brinkman**

**24<sup>th</sup> Debby Schumacher**

**31<sup>st</sup> Beverly Blinka**



**Please pray for our Country, the World, those in the military the shut-ins, the lonely, those in need of healing and their families: Walter**

**Nitsche, Vernice Allen, Jeanette Peed, Kelly Pampell, Barbara Smith, Mike Thompson, Dennis and Estelle Hejtmancik, Jean Bay, Douglas and Linda Brinkman, Tom Krennek, Stanley and Mildred Sommers, Jake Cedidla, Mary Bess and Garnett Gerdes, Sarah and Chester Canady, Sophia Pampell, Larry Kubecka, Roy Havemann, Delores Milzcewski, David Ronneberg, Kelly Kubiak, Marcus Broesche, Glen Drew, Taylor Power, Edward Beran, Cathi Laney, Shannon Miller, John Laffere, John Boyd, Adele Zboril, Kim and David Hardin, Glen and Amelia Wearden, Joel Pertl, Patricia Tarnowski, prayers for those recovering from surgery, those who are in treatment for cancer and cancer survivors, and prayers for the family of James Gray, J.D, Ondrasek, Ruby Knesek, James Parker, Jr., and William "Dub" Allen. Lord we pray that you come to our aid with your love and healing for all affected by Covid-19.**

**Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the Church Council has implemented some worship safeguards. Those who prepare Holy Communion or assist with distribution of Holy Communion are required to wear masks and gloves. While the Council has not mandated that everyone who worships must wear a mask, we do not want to discourage anyone from wearing a mask during worship. If it makes you more comfortable, please feel free to wear a mask. There are masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer on the ushers' table. Please remember to practice social distancing during worship and stay safe.**

**Church Council**

**Thanks to everyone who signed up for flowers for the 2021 year. Dates still available are:**

**February 28th  
March 14th  
March 21st  
March 28th  
April 11th  
April 18th  
May 2nd  
May 30th  
June 6th  
July 11th  
July 18th  
August 1st  
August 15th  
August 29th  
October 3rd  
October 10th  
October 24th  
October 31st  
November 7th  
November 14th  
November 21st**

**President**  
**Dwayne Beran**

**Vice-President**  
**Ashley Zboril**

**Secretary**  
**Susette Hart**

**Treasurer**  
**Marsha Kocurek**

**Maintenance**  
**Kevin Kubiak**

**Cemetery**  
**Ronnie Pampell**

**Pastor**  
**Terry Moon**

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**New Newsletter**  
**Email Address**  
**Stjohnsmothlynewsletter@gmail.com**

## **St. John's Lutheran Church** **Council Meeting Minutes**

December 16, 2020

6:30 pm

Call to order, Opening Prayer In attendance: Dwayne, Susette, Donna, Ronnie, Pastor, Marsha, Kevin Prayer by Pastor

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting: Motion by Donna to approve as read. All approved.

Approval of Financial Reports: Motion made by Susette, all in favor  
Treasurer Report – We are successfully controlling expenses to keep with income downturn.  
Memorial Fund  
Cemetery Fund / Perpetual Care Fund -

Pastor's Report- no report this month. Discussed masks being optional but not required.

### **Open issues-**

Building Fund Priorities – Committee Update – Kevin will get bids on fixing the drainage.

Worship Service Music – no update but are really appreciating the music provided by Ronnie and Kelly

### **Confirmation Class Update**

Lawn Maintenance/Cleaning Agreements – no revised cleaning quote sent. Susette made motion to accept verbal \$400 bid and Marsha seconded it. Knesek isn't going to continue lawn care. We will send the Muzny's the requirements which are in line with what Knesek was doing. Marsha made motion to hire them, all agreed.

Weed Spraying Opportunities – discussed price of pendulum. \$61.25 for 40lb. Need about 3 bags. Marsha is going to get another bid from her contact.

### **New Business**

Review Congregational Meeting Minutes – Dwayne reviewed notes with all. Thank Council Members that are serving and retiring – Dwayne thanked Donna for her service and going above and beyond what was expected.

Elect Officers for 2021 – Kevin will cover maintenance and Ashley will be Vice President. Susette Hart made motion to accept, Marsha seconded. All approved

Review Duties and Responsibilities – went over maintenance duties with Kevin.. Donna will get with Ashley on VP duties. Discussed signatures on accounts and closing out Germanfest and modifying any other accounts that need personnel updating.

Choose a date for Installation of Officers January 10.. Ronnie made motion, Marsha seconded.

Ronnie made motion to give gift to Pastor, Kevin seconded.

Marsha said the evangelist committee is sending out Christmas cards. Thank you to the committee.

Adjourn / Closing Prayer – prayer by all...



St, John's Children Christmas Program  
December 20, 2020  
THE ABC's Of Christmas





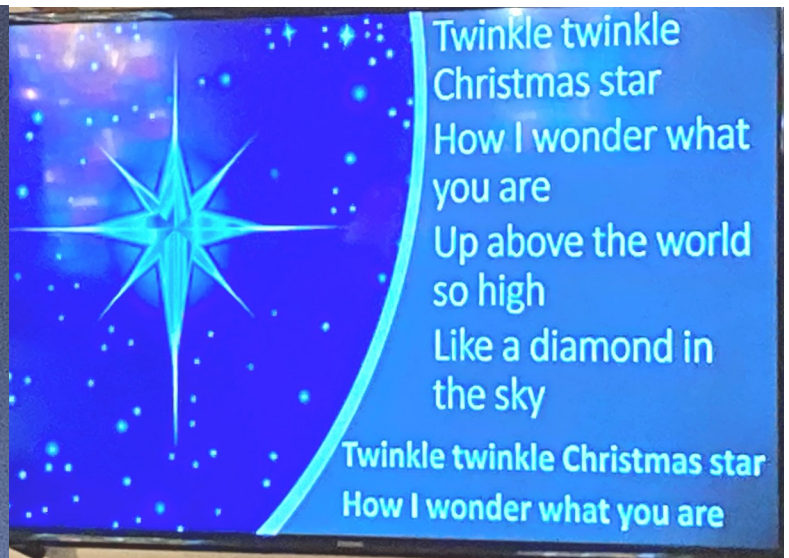


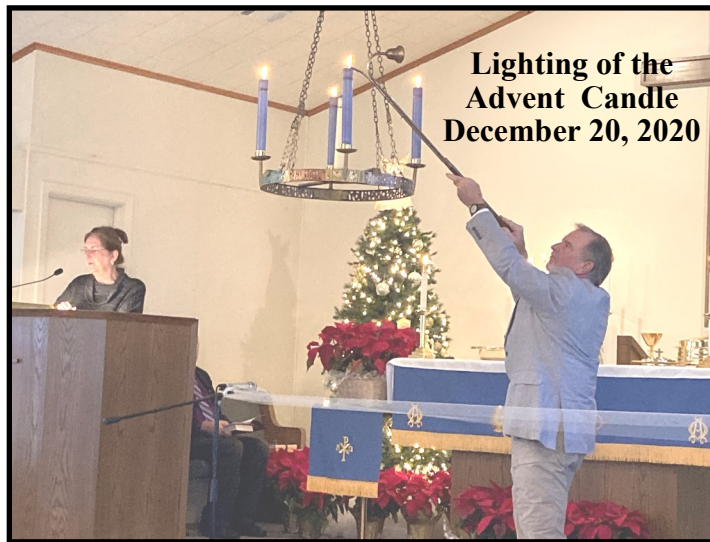
Thank you to all of the kids who participated in the Christmas program! The kids were able to put on a program that told the Christmas story using the alphabet. Thanks to Ronnie and Kelly Pampell for collecting and leading the music during the Christmas program. Also a big thank you to Casey Smith for putting together the PowerPoint and printing the parts for the kids to read.



Christmas Star  
December 21, 2020  
Lyons, Texas

The first time since the middle ages (800 years ago) that the two planets appeared so close to each other and so close to earth.





**Thanks** to everyone who had a part in the preparation of the Christmas Season. Thanks to those who decorated and provided poinsettias. Thanks to those who planned and participated in the Christmas Program, and to those who provided the gift bags for the children of the church. Also, thanks to the evangelist committee for sending out Christmas cards. Thanks to the children who colored pages as well as those who delivered the coloring pages and Christmas cards to the residents of the resthome. Thanks to Lynda Leo for her decades of providing the music for St. John's and to Seth Becca for providing the music for several years. St. John's is grateful to Ronnie and Kelly Pampell for leading the music in their absence. We look forward to Lynda and Seth returning along with Ronnie and Kelly to provide the music for St. John's .

**Thank you** to the congregation for the gifts that you gave us at Christmas. We so appreciate all of the food, cards, and presents we received. God's blessings to each of you in the new year.

Thanks again.

Terry, Marla & Mason





**Thank you** to everyone who supported the Deanville Heritage Foundation chili supper! A special thanks to Keith, RJ and Lonnie for cooking the chili! The fundraiser was very successful and will help the foundation purchase a security system for the depot.

**Thanks to everyone who helped buy gifts for children in need this Christmas! You are setting a great example for children in need in Burleson County!**

(From Cyndi: Just wanted you to know huge thank you to you and everyone that helped make this happen . I believe it's one of the best turn out as far as donations. I believe we received everything on the lists And we have been Blessed that the VFW will be letting us use their banquet room for pick up this Saturday due to possible bad weather. No matter how bad this year started this has been the most Blessed with everyone's help . Thank you big hugs .. and I'll be taking pics for you to take back to the church)





## Christmas Card Project

The Ladies group of St. John's and the youth of our Sunday School did a joint project this year. On behalf of St. John's Lutheran church, we sent each resident of The Manor and Copperas Hollow Nursing Homes a Christmas Card which included a Christmas picture colored by the Sunday school children. We also included a couple of candy canes. It was a fun project, and we give great thanks for the joint project. It is an example of faith in action.

"I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11"

Below is a copy of one of the children's artwork that was delivered.



### **Ladies Group Report**

The Ladies group has still been trying to remain active. Even though we have not had any meetings, we have individuals that still work on projects. On behalf of our church, they have delivered **birthday cards** to both nursing homes to hand out to residents when it is their birthday. They have also shared in the cost of the goodies for the children's bags at Christmas. Thank you to the other members who also contributed to this fun project!

The Ladies group also sponsored the purchase of **Christmas poinsettias** for the church. About \$60 profit was made for the group which has already been put back into Christmas projects.

As always, the group has a good supply of **prayer shawls** ready for use. Thank you to members who were able to complete these from home. If anyone would like to deliver a prayer shawl to a person in need of prayers, please let Pastor Terry or Debby Schumacher know. We can pull one out of the supply for you to deliver. During these hard times, it is hard to deliver and visit with others, but you may have a family member or close friend that may need one. Everyone will need to be our prayer shepherds to meet the needs of others.

### **January Special**

Be sure to notice and check out the signs displayed between each window in the sanctuary during the month of January. Each Memorial Faceted Glass window has a special story to tell. The sign placed between each window will tell you the story. Please note that there is one window in the far back in the overflow area. Enjoy!

# January, 2021

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Bobby Schumacher
3 Communion	4 Lonnie Supak	5	6	7	8	9 Jamie Brown Olivia Freeman
10 Installation of Church Council  Potluck Linda Brinkman	11	12 Dendy Brown Terry Moon	13 Ashley Zboril	14 Charlotte Hold	15	16
17  Communion	18  Miranda Cedidla	19 Council Meeting 6:30 PM  Estelle Hejtmancik  James Schumacher  Carol Brinkman	20	21 Genevia Kristof  Madeline Lehman (Jones)  Marlee Kocurek  Pauline Oetzman	22	23
24  Newsletter items due	25	26	27	28	29	30 Cameron Suehs
31 Brycen Suehs						