



Messiah Lutheran Church 1101 Neosho, Emporia, Kansas 66801 620-342-8181 Pastor Eddie Hosch Elaine Whiteneck, DCE

I want to officially go on the record in order to predict the following in 2020. There will be famine, natural disasters, corruption, war, economic downturns, environmental catastrophes and disease. But here's the deal, there are ALWAYS famines, natural disasters, corruption, war, economic downturns, environmental catastrophes and disease. The difference is that we live in a world that is so thoroughly connected by the digital age that the sheer volume of such events that we are intimately aware of seems at times overwhelming. I think Billy Joel said it best in his 1995 hit: — "We didn't start the fire. It was always burning, since the world's been turning. We didn't start the fire. No, we didn't light it; but we tried to fight it."

I want to offer another set of predictions as well. There will be good harvests, beautiful sunsets, integrity, peace, economic windfalls, environmental triumphs and healings. These too are just as safe a prediction because they always happen each and every year—yet somehow, they don't ever get the same coverage as the first list. This year I've decided that my New Year's resolution is going to be to find one solid piece of good news each and every day. But that's not all, I'm going to try and share that piece of good news with at least one other individual, whether in person, by email or by phone.

As people of faith we don't minimize the very real problems in the world; but we of all people should also keep a sharp eye on the horizon, looking for those signs of God and God's continued good work on our behalf. That is what the season of Epiphany is all about; basically, that God does show up! Jesus makes Himself known in the Gospels at His baptism, the wedding

at Cana and on the mountain of Transfiguration where He stands between Moses and Elijah; but Jesus also makes Himself known in our world, in our lives, in worship and in our care and concern for the neighbor. Epiphany is basically one big celebration that Jesus is here—right here in our midst.

That is also what we celebrate in Holy Communion and Baptism. That Jesus is here. We celebrate that God shows up over and over again to remind us that while we are not free from the many hardships that befall us; God has promised to walk with, through and under all that comes our way. During this new year of 2020, I know that we'll be bombarded with bad news. Some will be the usual catastrophes that befall the world and some will be the made up and exaggerated fear claims. It will be all too easy to be on the side of doom and gloom. I for one, invite you to stand with me in keeping an eye out for the good news of God in Jesus Christ— and then share it! And we might even be surprised, that we often see what we are looking for—and that might just make 2020 a very, very good year!

Peace! Pastor Eddie

Sunday Sermon Series Starting in January



Do you ever wish you could reboot your life like you reboot your computer? What is it that has gone wrong in your life that you wish you could go back and undo? With a new year coming we often

look back and reflect on what has gone on in our lives. Through the month of January we will look back at some of life's most common regrets and talk about how Christ brings forgiveness, hope and comfort to us all.

Themes & Menus for LOGOS

January 1 NO LOGOS

January 8 Pajama Party

Menu: Biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs with

cheese, grapes & cuties

January 15 Snowball Fight

Menu: Snowcaps, corn, applesauce, ice cream bars

January 22 Super Bowl Playoffs

Menu: Cavatini casserole, tossed salad, garlic

bread, apple and cherry pie

January 29 Home on the Range

Menu: Meatballs, cheesy potatoes, rolls, green

beans, brownies

Coming in January....



Tuesday, January 28
2:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 30
2:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Friday, January 31
2:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 1
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

is the schedule for Lifetouch pictures for a new Church directory. Plan to have your pictures taken.

You can sign up from home at this web page https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b3d3g650/

Save The Date - Missions Sunday January 12th

Pastor Duane Meissner of The Belize Mission Society will be leading worship the weekend of January 12th. Pastor Duane is the Director of BMS and will be visiting to share more about God's work in the Belize mission field. If you are interested in learning more about the Messiah Mission trip to Belize, Pastor Duane will also be leading a presentation after the Second Sunday Potluck to talk about his experiences, answer questions and encourage our efforts here in Emporia.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Gospel Outreach JANUARY



Outreach

Three ways to help strengthen your faith:

- 1) Nurturing
- 2) Meaningful
- 3) Encouraging
 - Start off the year in a positive way so you can be a blessing to others. Wake up 15 minutes earlier and spend t alone reading inspirational materials and praying. Set a goal to increase by 5 minutes every 3 months.
 - At church, collect canned soup and crackers in a large soup kettle. Then give the "Souper Bowl of Caring" to a local food pantry.
 - 3) Commit to praying daily for your "Prayer Partner" and do small acts of kindness throughout the year.

2020

JANUARY	HETLINGER COOK	ES - Dorcas Circle
January 8	11:00 a.m.	Executive Board
January 8	1:30 p.m.	Ruth Circle
January 21	6:30 p.m.	Dorcas Circle

Roses to

- † Roses to all those who helped clear snow. Thanks for keeping the sidewalks clean!
- † Roses to "Everyone joy to all because we are blessed"
- Roses to Mike & Jan Utech for donating the beautiful Christmas Trees again this year
- Roses to the many, many people who contributed to the "Tree of Love" this year and for Natalie who organizes it each year.
- Roses to all who came out to help with the Christmas parade handing out hot cocoa, cookies and greeting folks with a smile.
- Roses to the ESU and other college graduates as they celebrate their accomplishments
- Roses to the many adults who came out to help with the Loving Hands Christmas Shop and who purchased gifts for this ministry.
- Roses to all the youth came out to help the children at the Christmas Shop Abbey Johnson and Paulina, Jayden Birk and her friend, Lindsay Storrer and her friend, Choe & Clara Fisher, Kayden Barrett, Riley & Mariell Neff, Lexi & Joe Hosch, Ava Karcher, Brayden Shaw, Mandee Schumann, Carter Granado, Kaleigh Housholder
- Roses to Amanda Neff and Matt Esau for organizing the Children's Christmas Service with the help of the Sunday School staff.
- Roses to the children of Messiah who tell us of the Savior's birth through word, song and action
- Roses to Sophia Rethman who served as the videographer for the Children's Christmas Service
- † Roses to Barb Scott who wrote "Happy Birthday Jesus" on all the LOGOS cakes

Roses to all who helped set up the Christmas trees and decorate the Church.

Tree of Love

Thank you to all for your generous gifts for the "Tree of Love". This year we were able to help 5 families and 11 teens (37 in all). What I've come to realize is that even though the material gifts are special, more importantly, the gift of love and hope that we give is the true meaning of Christmas.

May you be blessed
With the spirit of the season,
which is peace.
The gladness of the season,
which is hope.
And the heart of the season,
which is love. (Unknown)

God's Blessings, Natalie Schnakenberg

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Our Loving Hands Shopping event would not have been possible without the generous support of all of you! Whether you donated cookies, items for gifts or cash, gift bags, tissue paper or simply prayed for our success, we thank you! A very special thank you to all the youth and adult volunteers that came Saturday to help serve goodies, shop, wrap or clean up! We hope this can become an annual event, so please keep us in mind for next year, as you shop the after Christmas clearance sales.

Member News

The following members have been in the hospital sometime during the month. Please keep them in your prayers for continued healing and comfort: Marcia Janzen, Marietta Whitson, Kathy Bowden

If we left off your name, please let us know. Remember to call the Church Office if you are planning to go into the hospital. Let your family know that they need to call us. The hospital will no longer notify Pastor when you enter.

Remember our service men and women in your prayers: Terry Rhoads, Josh Lawson, Dillion Grother, Aaron Cuadra, Andrew Reynolds, Jordan Reynolds, Darren Schroeder, John Ritchie, Christy Bryant, Michael Hammon, Seth Davis, Aubrey Blankenship

Attendance & Offerings

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Date	Attendance	Offering	
Nov. 30/Dec. 1	205	\$7,702.25	
December 4 – Advent	128	\$477.00	
December 7/8	229	\$7,465.00	
Dec. 11 - Advent	180	\$963.25	
December 14/15	234	\$4,328.50	

Weekly Budget Needs: \$10,043.27



Prayer Calendar

For each day of the month, the name of a Messiah Family is listed for you to pray for. We ask that you keep the prayer calendar in a place where you will see it each day and then include that family in your daily prayers. Pray that God will watch over them, grant them good health, and keep them strong in the faith. We hope that our prayers will strengthen and bind us together as a family of God.

January 2020

- 1. Michael & Traci Arndt, & Kane
- 2. Walker & Lauren Ayers & Emerson
- 3. Linda Barger
- 4. Brett & Carla Barnett, Emma & Trevor
- 5. Bob & Peggy Barnhart
- 6. Derek & Larenda Barnhart & Leona
- 7. Troy & Lauri Barnhart
- 8. Bryan Barr
- 9. Lee & Shelly Barr & Gelane
- 10. Mike & Gail Barrett, Kayden & Ty
- 11. Don & Teresa Bauck
- 12. Alvssa Belford
- 13. Amanda Belford
- 14. Jim & Karen Belford
- 15. Elaine Bentz
- 16. Doug & Tracy Bernhardt
- 17. Tyler & Amber Bernhardt, Amber, Abigail, Brandon & Cassidee
- 18. Jeff & Lisa Bessmer
- John Bessmer
- 20. Cameron Birk
- 21. Christopher & Nicole Birk & Danielle
- 22. Jason & Richelle Birk, Ashton, Jayden & Rhiana
- 23. Larry & Catherine Birk
- Kathleen Bode
- 25. David & Ann Boles
- 26. Ashley Bollinger
- 27. Tim & Lynnette Bollinger
- 28. Heath & Kim Botkin, Riley & Jarrett
- 29. Taylor & Regan Botkin
- 30. David & Rachel Boucher, Taylor, Claire & Myles
- 31. Wes & Kathy Bowden

Lutheran Hour Program Guide

Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on 96.1 FM at 10:00 a.m. and also on WIBW - 580 AM at 7:30 a.m. Messiah Lutheran's radio program is on 96.1 FM following the "Lutheran Hour" at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning.

January 5 - "Mercy In This Dojo" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler New Series (Genesis 37)

January 12 - "People are Treasure" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler New Series (Genesis 39)

January 19 - "Unforgettable" Guest Speaker: Dr. Dean Nadasdy New Series (Genesis 40:1-23)

January 26

"TBD" - Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler



January 2020		
January 4 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m Elder: Don Bauck		
Acolyte: Trevor Barnett		
January 5 – Sunday		
8:30 a.m		
January 11 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m. Elder: Don Bauck		
Acolyte: Rhianna Birk		
January 12 - Sunday 8:30 a.m		
January 18 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m. Elder: Don Bauck Acolyte: Nolan & Clara Heitman		
January 19 - Sunday 8:30 a.mElder: Greg Larson		
Acolyte: Ava Karcher 11:00 a.m. Elder: Tracy Karcher Acolyte: Addisyn Hinrichs & Samantha Pankratz		
January 25 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m. Elder: Don Bauck Acolyte: Caleb Schroder		
B:30 a.mElder: Greg Larson Acolyte:		
11:00 a.m Elder: Tracy Karcher Acolyte: Sadie Rethman & Mandee Schumann		