



MESSENGER NEWSLETTER ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The small church with a BIG heart: Ordinary people
With an extra ordinary message!"

Pastor Gerald Scheperle

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Babbtown (Near Meta)
7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

VOLUME 54, ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2022

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Schubert and Babbtown Newsletter

Calendar for January, 2022

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BABBTOWN

Sunday Worship

8:00 A.M. Worship

(Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday)

Bible Study and Sunday School 9:10 A.M.

SCHUBERT

Sunday Worship

Sunday school

9:15 A.M.

Bible study 9:30 A.M.

10:00 A.M. Worship with

(Holy Communion)

Also Streaming on Facebook

JANUARY AT A GLANCE

- | | |
|-------|--|
| Dec31 | New Year's Eve Worship
Babbtown 6 pm, Schubert
7:30 pm |
| Jan 1 | New Year's Day |
| Jan 4 | Schubert Elders, 7 pm |
| Jan 5 | WkDay/Conf. 6-7:30 pm
Council 7:30 pm |
| Jan 6 | Epiphany of Our Lord |
| Jan 9 | Schubert Voters after
worship
Babbtown voters 6 pm
Basement reserved 1-3 pm |
| Jan12 | WkDay/Conf. 6-7:30 pm |
| Jan17 | Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Jan19 | WkDay/Conf. 6-7:30 pm |
| Jan20 | Basement reserved 6 pm |
| Jan25 | Men's Bible Study/Supper 6
pm |
| Jan26 | WkDay/Conf. 6-7:30 pm |

Dear Friends and Members of St. John's Congregations, Brothers and Sisters in Christ Fellow Redeemed,

Most of you know that I like old things; antique furniture (organs), historic buildings, archaeology, etc. Yet when I was growing up, I can clearly remember my parents saying that they were surrounded by that old stuff growing up, now they want something new. As life has taught me, many people (even those who appreciate the old) enjoy or even long for something new.

Maybe that is why the New Year has become such a celebration down through the ages. The lure of the New Year seems to be with the feeling of starting off new and fresh and putting the problems and failures of the past behind us.

New Year—while it is a secular celebration—it is a great opportunity to realize that there is one place that we are given the true opportunity to get a fresh start, to begin new.

The Bible tells us in Lamentations 3:22-23, "*It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are New every morning: Great is their faithfulness.*" (KJV)

For the Christian every day is the beginning of a New Year—in regard to the mercies and love of God! Then add to this what we are told about baptism. We are made new. Romans 6:4, "*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.*" Then we read 2 Cor. 5:17-*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.*" We can truly rejoice in a new day and in a new life in Christ!

This newness is not just celebrated once in a life time or even once a year—(like our New Year Holiday) Martin Luther tells us to celebrate this newness each day. We read in the small Catechism under part four of Baptism—

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all the sins and evil desires, and that a New man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Take this New Year as an opportunity to reflect on the fact that you are a New Creation in Christ Jesus and celebrate by listening to Paul's admonition. Eph. 4:24 *Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*

This is a real New Year Celebration

Happy and Blessed New Year

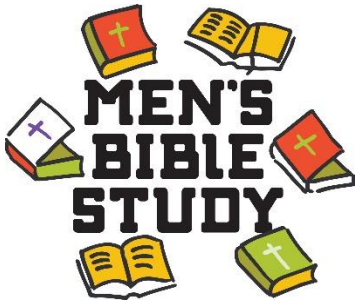
In Christ's Love

Pastor Scheperle

SPEAKING FOR LIFE

“Every human life, no matter the size, level of development, environment, or degree of dependency, is indispensable in fulfilling God’s plans.” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

“You are not and never have been simply a number, a blob of tissue, or an invisible nobody. Rather, you are now and always have been God’s handcrafted gift to the world.” *Michelle Bauman, director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



Men’s Bible Study has been moved to the 4th Tuesday in January because of a scheduling issue for Pastor.

Men and sons and friends are invited to join us for supper and a Bible study.

Tuesday January 25th,
6:00 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year!

It’s the time of year when we all set New Year’s resolutions. Resolution is a hard word to explain to a child and even harder to accomplish as adults. Many of us forget to do what we set out to do or don’t make it important enough - a priority to finish what we started.

Our kids can’t understand the purpose of a plan - they live in the here and the now - and that attitude of importance and being always present is a lesson that we can apply to the Resolutions that we make.

At the beginning of every year, our calendars are mostly empty. We haven’t had time to make plans. If we planned now, in the present, we might do a better job of accomplishing what is really important. Reading our Bible ... praying Going to church and Sunday school...these plans and resolutions are most important.

God has plans for us too! “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD.” God wants to prosper us or make our relationship with Him better, and he gives us hope in life. His resolution for us is life long and it’s the ultimate plan. The newness of Christ in every year.

Golden GIVING

Live out Jesus' golden rule by preparing gift bags for people in need.



What you need:

- Gallon-size zip bags
- New socks
- Hand warmers
- Bus fare or tokens
- Bottled water
- Nonperishable food
- Toiletries and first-aid items
- Paper and markers

What you do:

1. Gather supplies, using the ideas above. Fill bags to make care packages.
2. Write notes or draw pictures for recipients, placing one in each bag.
3. Zip bags and keep them in a vehicle to distribute. Or deliver them right away to people in need (or to sick or homebound people, nursing home residents, a homeless shelter and so on).
4. Pray that God will use your gifts to help and encourage each recipient.

COVID UPDATES

First of all I would like to say thank you for your patience during these (almost) 2 years of ministry under the effects of Covid.

We have had to do things differently and adjust our activities accordingly!

I ask for your continued patience and understanding as we proceed in this new year to try to return to a nearer-to-normal pattern of ministry while still trying to include everyone and offer a safe environment for everyone to worship in.

We will continue to reserve the first four pews on each side for social distanced seating, using every other pew.

Those who wish to mask are encouraged to do so. Please be considerate and kind to all no matter what your personal preference might be.

On a personal note. Thanks for all your kindness and understanding toward Paula and me during her treatments. She has been able to worship in person these past 2 months however in January she will receive her next set of infusions. This will cause her to need to be more cautious among crowds and social situations. Keep her in your prayers.

We pray for God's mercy on our fallen world and His blessing on all that we do in His name to teach and preach the Gospel.

If you are unable to come to worship in person please contact me for Private Communion. I will be happy to provide you with that opportunity.

A BLESSED 2022 TO ALL

A Blessed New Year to you in the Name of Jesus, Our Savior,

A new year full of God's promises and opportunities to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to a hurting world!

January 23rd is observed as Sanctity of Life Sunday in most churches this year. That date is chosen because it is the Sunday closest to January 22nd when in 1973 the infamous "Roe vs Wade" case was passed by the Supreme Court. That case disregarded all state laws which protected the unborn from abortion by making abortion legal for any reason all during pregnancy. Now the Supreme Court has heard arguments calling for the overturn of that decision. Their latest decision will come out in June. Please pray that they will vote to protect all human life from the moment of conception.

In the meantime there's lots going on in Washington DC proclaiming the value of every human life. The LCMS and Lutherans For Life will join thousands of other like-minded people in giving witness to the value of human life that God creates, redeems and sanctifies at **Life Conferences** and the **2022 MARCH FOR LIFE**. Won't you consider joining them in prayer, in person or online? Check out lutheransforlife.org/event/march-for-life-washington-d-c-2022.

Lutherans For Life is also sponsoring **LIFE WEEK 2022** based on the theme "**God Chose You**" with events and speakers each day from Jan 16th through the 22nd. See the following for the schedule of speakers and join in. For more details see lutheransforlife.org/life-week-2022.

Each day, the LFL team will host an educational event that focuses on a gift God has chosen for YOU. Our guest speakers will not only discuss each gift but also highlight how God speaks directly to life issues that affect each of these gifts. Take a look at our lineup of on-line speakers:

Day 1: **Rev. Michael Salemink**, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry, LFL

Day 2: **Rev. Scott Licht**, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, LFL

Day 3: **Michelle Bauman**, Director of Y4Life, LFL

Day 4: **Rev. Jeff Duncan**, Director of Mission and Ministry, LFL

In addition to on-line presentations, join us in-person at **Y4Life in Washington, D.C.**, our college and high school youth conference. (Register for [Y4Life in Washington, D.C. here.](#)) Or, choose to attend **LFL at the March**, our adult conference. (Register for [LFL at the March here.](#))

Y4Life in Washington D.C. – High-school- and college-aged youth are invited to attend Y4Life in Washington, D.C., each January. In addition to walking in the March for Life, participating youth engage in LFL's FREE Y4Life in Washington, D.C. Conference and activities where they'll have opportunities to meet other young leaders engaged in the For Life movement, learn about life issues, hear informational and motivational speakers, and prepare to be leaders 4Life in their schools and communities. Register for this exciting educational and life-changing experience through Michelle Bauman at mbauman@lutheransforlife.org!

Be bold in your witness for life, taking advantage of the above opportunities and keeping each event and the participants in prayer!

In Christ,
Sylvia Glenn

Feel free to call me (573-592-7866) for information or concerns about life issues. For those who have had an abortion, there is a word of hope! "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3). For confidential post-abortion **referral, counsel, and reconciliation** contact WORD of HOPE, toll-free 888-217-8679, info@word-of-hope.org or visit www.word-of-hope.org.

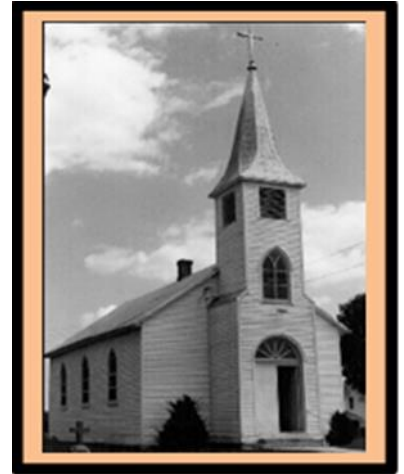


BABBTOWN NEWS

ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING

The Annual Voters Meeting is tentatively set for 2nd Sunday in January (9th).

We hope the weather will be ok. Announcement will be in Sunday services. We encourage all voting members to attend.



CALENDER OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY, 2022

Jan. 9, Voters Meeting

6:00 pm

Jan.24, Bible Class

7:00 pm



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CLEANING FOR
PARISH HOUSE
January, 2022
Dianna and Katylin
Schubert

Baptism Birthday
For
January, 2022
Jan 3, Carla Nilges
Jan 28, Carolyn Hayes

Schubert

Usher Schedule



Jan 2 Gene Walkenhorst
Andy Beach
Silas Luetkemeyer
Gary Lofton

Jan 9 Gene Walkenhorst
George Kuhlmann
Eric Lofton
Dale Schmutzler

Jan16 Gene Walkenhorst
Mike Forbis
Dave Mueller
Dale Ludwig

Jan23 Gene Walkenhorst
Matt Belcher
Berry Wiggins
Sherri Russell

Jan30 Gene Walkenhorst
Mike Forbis
Ross Schmutzler
Bob

Jan 1 Terry Brenner
Gretchen Junkans
Mark, Sherri and Brady
Russell
Mary Kosacki
Morgan Householder
Will Spurgeon

Jan 4 Jan Titus

Jan 5 George Kuhlmann
Anne Mueller

Jan 6 Calvin Prohaska

Jan11 Debra Rademan

Jan14 Ryan Braun

Jan16 Larry Dippold

Jan17 Claire Ludwig
Dale Schmutzler

Jan18 Caleb Kollmeyer

Jan19 Terry Walkenhorst

Jan22 Hayden Smasal

Jan26 Kevin Lohraff

Jan30 Lynn Lofton

Jan31 Nicole Toerper
Oliver Mistler

FEBRUARY, 2022
Newsletter Items are due
JANUARY 23, 2022
Newsletter items may be
placed in either Pastor's or
Jan's mailbox.

Or they may be e-mailed to
Pastor Scheperle—
st.jschubert@outlook.com
Any announcement:
Weddings, birthdays,
anniversaries, personal notes,
pictures or church related
business are welcome.

JANUARY, 2022

**CLEANING
CHURCH**
Linda Brenner
Helen Stulce
ALTAR GUILD
Karen Forbis
Deb Rademan