



TOWER ECHOES 2022

From the Pastor,

Happy New Year!

Will 2022 be better than 2021? I hope so. 2021 was better than 2020. So better doesn't mean "better" anymore, just a better different. 2020 was different from 2019, but not better.

God was with us in each year. God will be with us in 2022. We must approach each day trusting that God will be with us that day. We should even invite God to be with us that whole day. Paul says that if we allow Christ to live in us as we no longer live for ourselves but we live for Christ.

Living for Christ means putting the will of God before our will and needs and desires. Our decisions made are in view of what is best according to God's will and what is best for others around us. When we can achieve this then we can truly love ourselves without it being a selfish love or decision.

However, if 2022 will be different or similar to the past years is unknown yet. What is known is that we can trust God to be there already while still being here this year right now with you.

Happy New Year to You and God be with you!

Pastor Jim



Church Seasons: The Church Season of Time After Christmas ends on January 5. The Church Season of Time after Epiphany begins January 6 and ends March 1. The Epiphany season is about expecting God to keep God's promises and seeking God's presence in ordinary things like babies, stars, light and other people.

Church Festival Days: January 1 - Name of Jesus

January 6 - Epiphany of Our Lord

January 9 - Baptism of Our Lord

January 18 - The Confession of Peter

January 25 - Conversion of Paul

January 26 - St. Timothy, Titus & Silas, Missionaries

U.S. Holidays: January 1 - New Year's Day

January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Grace Lutheran Church Annual
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 16, 2022**

Grace Lutheran Church will hold its Annual
Congregational Meeting on
Sunday, January 17, 2022 following worship
services. Worship will be a joint service with Hope
Lutheran and the time changed to 10:00 a.m.

**We welcomed
Burke Lee Kuhl
into God's Kingdom and our
church family through his Rite of
Infant Baptism on
December 11, 2021.
He was born March 15, 2021.
His parents are Sara & Taylor Kuhl
and he has a big brother Cooper
and big sister Blakely.
His sponsors are
Justin & Whitney Caspers.**

PIECEMAKERS

The Piecemakers will be meeting every Tuesday during the months of
January, February and March - **all day**. On January 18th they will be
having a Covered Dish Luncheon and on March 8th they will be sharing a
Salad Luncheon. You are welcome to join them if you feel safe doing so.
Please come and join in the fellowship of making some beautiful blankets
for those in need.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1st - Les Gerking | 12th - Jodell Bridgmon |
| Tyllar Roesener | 13th - Curtis Bohling |
| 3rd - Amy Beethe | Caleb Eggleston |
| 4th - Paul Wilken | 14th - Brian Wiebke |
| 6th - Amanda Gerking | 16th - Brad Medina |
| Sheridan Thompson | 17th - Alexander Perkins |
| 7th - Donna Rosenthal | 21st - Kris Gerking |
| 8th - Caleb Walters | 23rd - Grant Moles |
| Kirk Faris | Rodney Roesener |
| 9th - Brady Garday | 25th - Lydia Bilslend |
| Delwin Antholz | 27th - Jody Wellensiek |
| 10th - Nathan Gerking | Scott Armknecht |
| 11th - Emily Mannschreck | 28th - Joyce Roesener |
| | 31st - Makayla Schippert |

Volleyball Post Season
Honors

Shayla Thompson:

All Conference Honorable
Mention

Assisting Ministers

January

2—Eleta Eisenhower
9—Carl Purcell
16—Jody Wellensiek
23—Erin Ebeler Rolf
30—Jody Bruns

January 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| |  | | | | |  |
| 2 8:30 am Worship w/ Communion No Sunday School | 3 | 4 Piecemakers Blanket Making All Day | 5 Confirmation 4:00 p.m. | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School | 10 Bible Study 1:30 p.m. | 11 Piecemakers Blanket Making All Day | 12 Confirmation 4:00 p.m. | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion No Sunday School Annual Meeting to follow worship | 17 | 18 Piecemakers Blanket Making All Day Covered Dish Luncheon | 19 Confirmation 4:00 p.m. | 20 | 21 | 22 NSWO Winter Retreat St. Paul's, Grand Island 9 am—3 pm |
| 23 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School | 24 Tower Echoes Deadline | 25 Piecemakers Blanket Making All Day | 26 Confirmation 4:00 p.m. | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School | 31 |  | | | | |

Grace Lutheran Church Council

14 December 2021

Grace Lutheran Church Council met 14 December 2021. The meeting was called to order by Paul Wilken. Pastor Jim Helgren started the meeting with a prayer. Council members present were: Paul Wilken, Amber Beard, Bret Wellensiek, Erin Ebeler Rolf, and Kate Dietz. Also in attendance were: Pastor Jim Helgren and Diane Wilken, church secretary/treasurer, and Sarah Purcell. Absent was Tucker Drake.

Bret Wellensiek made a motion to accept the minutes of the 16 November 2021 meeting. Kate Dietz seconded. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. Erin Ebeler Rolf made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Kate Dietz seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Helgren's Monthly Report:

- Funeral at Hope and another at Grace
- Went to the Veteran's service at the middle school
- Communed with members outside of church
- Saturday 12/11/2021 Pastor held a baptism

Correspondence:

- GLC Pastor's plaque has been hung in the entryway

Committee Reports:

Property committee: Council – Bret Wellensiek:

- Sidewalks – still working on having the contractor complete
- Parsonage window – window is at warehouse in Lincoln, waiting on crew to install
- Trees – still working on it
- Snow Removal – contacted via text potential candidate
- SE Door closure is broken – contacting people to correct it

Worship, Evangelism, Music & Fellowship: Council – Erin Ebeler Rolf:

- We are very close to having funds to support 4 Tanzania Orphans
- Changed the songs on the Carillon to the Christmas settings

Parish Ed & Young People: Council – Amber Beard:

- Sunday School Program – it was cute and comical
- SS is planning on doing bells (during church) and a craft the first Sunday every month starting February.

Stewardship & Memorial: Council – Kate Dietz:

- Cake and ice cream was served to celebrate Jesus' birthday
- Serving for Cantata, Sunday 19 December 2021

Other Business:

Old Business:

Hope/Faith Correspondence

Candlelight service setup will be Monday 12/20

New Business:

- Services/Communion
- Sarah Purcell:
 - ◇ Harris Organ Works was here last week to clean and adjust MIDI (\$401.00)
Left a contract that was drafted; it was requested to sign
Review the Darrow Contract prior to further discussion
Erin Ebeler Rolf motioned to pay the invoice. Kate Dietz second. Motion passed.
 - ◇ It was discussed the possibility to purchase new hymnals
Green hymnal copyright 1978
Cranberry hymnal copyright 2006
Cost approximately \$24.50 each
Check with the other two organists and bring to the discussion at the annual meeting
- Budget numbers were reviewed and approved.
- Reports for the Annual Meeting are due to the secretary by December 27th
- Noisy Coin for December was designated to Tanzanian Scholarship
- Annual Meeting will be January 16 following 10:00 am joint worship with Hope

Next Meeting will be 18 January 2022 at 7PM

Meeting was adjourned by Paul Wilken and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Amber L. Beard





Grace Lutheran Church

306 N. First St.
P.O. Box 96
Cook, NE 68329



Church Office: 402-864-4201
Pastor Jim Helgren: 402-864-2113

Church Email: grace68329@gmail.com