

# **RESURRECTION NEWS**



**DECEMBER 2020**

**Pastor's Letter  
December 2020**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

As a child, my favorite holiday of the year was always Christmas. Sure, I enjoyed the presents – what kid doesn't? But that wasn't the only reason I loved Christmas. Every part of the season surrounding Christmas was special, like making Christmas sweets. Two of my favorite sweets to make were what my family called "Reindeer Food" and "Candy Pizza" (the latter of which is basically diabetes waiting to happen). I loved the "Christmas spirit" that was always in the air. I also loved Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship, when we would sing hymns like "O Come, All Ye Faithful", "Joy to the World", "Go Tell It on the Mountain", and many others.

There was something special about the Christmas season in my childhood – it gave me that feeling of being a kid in a candy shop (which, in some ways, I was!). But as I got older, one year in particular, all of that changed. That year was a difficult year of pain and loss. I remember looking forward to Christmas that year, hoping that the child-like feelings would return, but they never did. Christmas came and went, and it all felt like a blur. I remember thinking to myself how it didn't even feel like Christmas happened. I had been numb to it all.

If you've lived on this earth long enough, you've probably had a similar experience at Christmas time. Maybe you were entering the Christmas season for the first time after going through a divorce, maybe it was your first Christmas after the death of a loved one, or maybe you experienced a different kind of deep loss, and so you felt like you were just going through the motions of Christmas time, but your heart wasn't in it. You weren't feeling it. In fact, maybe you were feeling nothing more than pain and loss, and you couldn't wait for Christmas to be over. Or maybe this Christmas will be the first after a deep loss, and you're absolutely dreading it.

In a world so deeply driven by feelings and emotions, the message of Christmas – the birth of Jesus Christ – offers a different message:

*Behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:10-11).*

This was the message of the angels to the shepherds on that first Christmas day, and it's a message that stays the same for you and me. Jesus is born! He has come to be your savior! This is good news of great joy! This joy is not dependent upon how you *feel* about it – it's objective truth. Christ is born. He has come to save *you*. And this good news meets you where you are.

What I'm trying to say is this: it's okay to feel pain this Christmas season. It's okay to feel numb. Pain is real. Loss cuts to the heart of each of us. We often feel that more acutely at Christmas. If you're grieving this Christmas season, let yourself grieve. If you're feeling pain, let yourself feel pain. But in the midst of the grief and pain that you might be feeling this Christmas season, I pray that you will cling to this good news – the objective reality that Jesus was born to be your savior. He came to this world because he loves you so much that he wants to spend eternity with you. Cling to this promise, especially when you don't feel it. Objective truth isn't dependent on your feelings. Jesus loves you. He came to this world to be your savior. This is truly "good news of great joy" that transcends the most fickle of our emotions. Thanks be to God that this good news of the Gospel is ours this Christmas!

Peace in Jesus,  
Pastor Akers

## *Notes from your Deaconess*

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

As we journey into this darker time of the year, we light candles, hang and place extra lights inside and outside our homes, pull out our advent wreaths, and look forward to celebrating the birthday of *the* light of the world. We greet another Advent season and the beginning of another church year with specific hymns, as well as moving to the use of Series B of the Three-Year Lectionary for our Sunday readings. Mark will figure prominently in the gospel readings instead of Matthew from which we have mainly heard this past year. But we will miss some of the traditions of many years...such as the LWML Christmas Fair (look for a Christmas in July fair next summer), and many of our Christmas parties and family gatherings will be much smaller due to the coronavirus.

Our Sunday Bible study narratives from the book of Exodus will remind us that we receive and enjoy all good things in this life as gifts from God – and that we should “fear, love, and trust in God above all things.” We’ll focus on God’s provision of manna – food in the wilderness, and then how he gave water to his people from a rock (as we receive the water of life from our rock of salvation, Christ). Just before Christmas we’ll consider how the people of Israel “set up their own god, to whom they looked for blessings, help, and comfort” (*from Luther’s Large Catechism*) while Moses spent time with the Lord on Mount Sinai. We, too, often set up our own gods in which we trust instead of the Lord (including things like science, government, our healthy bank accounts...).

Our daily lectionary readings for December immerse us in portions of the prophet Isaiah who preached to his fellow countrymen of Judah regarding their lack of fear, love, and trust in the Lord. “...do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling...” (Isaiah 8:12b-14a). Isaiah also embedded many promises of the Lord God within his sermons about the coming Messiah. The New Testament readings for the month primarily take us through the epistles from Peter and John, and a large portion of the Revelation to John. These address believers with warnings to be on guard against false teaching, assurance of the Lord’s victory over sin and death, and the hope we have as a church together awaiting the new heaven and earth. We’ll read accounts relating to Jesus’s birth during the last week of the month until we reach Epiphany in January.

I tentatively plan to hold Saturday morning women’s Bible studies on December 5 and 19. We may need to shift to a more computer based gathering if things continue to worsen in terms of the plague, but I hope to be at church those mornings from 8:30 to 10am in the fellowship hall downstairs. We’ve continued with the women in the Torah so far, but may change gears...let me know if you’re interested or have recommendations for future studies.

Under his mercy,  
Sharon M. Conover

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined...For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:2, 6*

### Thursday Bible Study

Thursday Bible Study will not meet on 12/24 nor 12/31, but will resume on Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 13**. Due to COVID-19, we will be making an adjustment to the usual way of conducting these meetings. In order to ensure that attendance is kept below the Governor's gathering limits, there will be two "sessions", one after each worship service. We hope that most members will attend the session following the service they attend. **Session 1 will begin around 9:30**, and will include a review of the annual reports, approval of the 2021 Budget, election of officers, proposed amendment to article 9 of the church constitution (see below), and a vote to officially call Pastor Akers as our Sole Pastor. A detailed agenda and meeting packet will be distributed prior to the meeting. After the agenda has been completed, the meeting will be temporarily suspended until **Session 2 resumes the meeting at around 11:45**. Session 2 will include the same agenda and voting as session 1, and will end with an official adjournment of the meeting when all business has been completed. We will make participation in the meeting through Zoom possible during Session 2. A link to this will be sent in the Friday announcement email on 12/11. Talk to Brian Watson, Pastor Akers, or any Church Council member if you have any questions or concerns.

**Proposed Constitution Amendment:** Remove existing **Article 9.0 - Right of Property in Case of Schism** and replace it with the following:

#### **9.0 DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

*If at any time a division or disagreement in the Congregation should take place for any reason, the following principles will govern in accordance with the dispute resolution process described in the bylaws of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod:*

**9.1** *The property of the Congregation and all benefits connected therewith shall remain with those communicant members who continue to adhere in confession and practice to the confessional standards set forth in Article 2.0 and Article 3.0 of this constitution.*

**9.2** *In the event that the Congregation dissolves, all property shall be disposed of by the final voters assembly for the payment of debts and all just claims against the Congregation, and any and all surplus and all rights connected therewith shall be conveyed to and become the property of the New England District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.*

**9.3** *No members of the Congregation shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets in the event of the Congregation dissolving.*

### Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Worship:

**We plan to offer two Christmas Eve worship services this year: 4:00pm and 6:00pm.** We will celebrate the night of our savior's birth with a (slightly abbreviated) service of Lessons & Carols. As with Sunday morning worship, we ask that you RSVP in advance so we can ensure adequate space for all attendees. That survey will be sent out about two weeks in advance. **We will be live streaming the 6pm service on Facebook** for those who would like to participate from home.

**Christmas Day worship will take place at 10:00am** on Christmas morning. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper as a part of the Divine Service. **That service will be live streamed to Facebook as well.**

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:

Every year, we grace the chancel with poinsettias during the Christmas season. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please include \$13 per plant with your offering envelope marked – "flowers." The deadline to order is December 13th. You may also provide your own plant for the chancel. Please be sure to indicate how you would like the announcement to read:

From: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

To The Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

# December Stewardship

	<u>December 6</u>	<u>December 13</u>	<u>December 20</u>	<u>December 24</u>	<u>December 25</u>	<u>December 27</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	10:45 Andrew Farr	10:45 Allison Farr	10:45 Evan Farr	4:00 Mia Fitzpatrick  6:00 Emily Carlson		10:45 Andrew Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	8:30 Charlie MacPherson  10:45 Steve Farr	8:30 Brian Watson  10:45 Dan Callahan	8:30 Glenn Carlson  10:45 Mark Larsen		10:00 Chris Batson	
<u>Ushers</u>	8:30 Brian Watson  10:45 Dan Callahan	8:30 Rick Drageland  10:45 Mo Cote	8:30 Tyler Wilson  10:45 Wayne Pelletier	4:00 Glenn Carlson Sr Brad Fitzpatrick  6:00 Glenn Carlson Jr Chris Batson	10:00 John Ayotte	8:30 Rick Drageland  10:45 John Ayotte
<u>Cantor</u>	8:30 Jared Goldsmith  10:45 Fernando Gouvea	8:30 Sharon Conover  10:45 Steve Farr	8:30 Jared Goldsmith  10:45 Allison Farr		10:00 Sharon Conover  10:45 Allison Farr	8:30 Jared Goldsmith  10:45 Steve Farr
<u>Greeters</u>	8:30 Sharon Klipp  10:45 The Batsons	8:30 The Dragelands  10:45 The Larsen Family	8:30 Sharon Conover  10:45 The Farr Family	4:00 Sharon Klipp  6:00 The Batsons		8:30 The Dragelands  10:45 The Cotes
<u>Altar Care</u>	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette		Sasha Fitzpatrick	Krista Carlson
<u>Flowers</u>	Julie Kohl	Julie Kohl	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp

## Defending the Faith

*Sometimes the Best Defense is a good Defense.*

Have you ever had a conversation with someone who had doubts about Christianity?

Perhaps it was a friend or family member who challenges Scripture as “just a book written by men”. Or maybe they claim that Jesus was a wise person and a good teacher, but certainly not God.

Has a conversation like that left you flat-footed? Unable to come up with a quick response to their challenge?

This is where the field of Christian apologetics comes in.

Apologetics has nothing to do with apologizing. Rather, it is the practice of defending someone or something and in our case, it’s defending the Christian worldview.

Going forward, I will be writing apologetics articles for our LCR monthly newsletter. My goal is to offer some of the different approaches to navigating conversations with agnostics, atheists and even Christians who are experiencing doubts.

My goal is to equip you for these conversations, both with methods of conducting them and with some of the best arguments against atheism and for Christianity. My hope is that you can approach these conversations with the confidence that comes from being well prepared.

I will be drawing on the expertise of some of the smartest theologians in this field and trying to make some very complicated concepts more understandable. Names like William Lane Craig, Greg Kokul, J. Warner Wallace, Frank Turek, and many more. And just to be sure I stay on track, I’ll be doing this under Pastor Akers’ supervision.

Here’s a little taste... The “postmodern” view of the world (in which our young people are being indoctrinated from grade school through college) says that there is no such thing as absolute truth, meaning something that is true for all people, in all times and places and all circumstances. This is often used as an argument against the existence of God with statements such as “That’s true for you but not for me.”

Can you spot the place where this position fails? It actually falls on its own sword – and by the way, this is a conversation I actually had several years ago with a good friend. It went like this:

Him: “There’s no such thing as absolute truth.”

Me: “Is that absolutely true?”

My friend was making an absolute truth claim that there’s no such thing as absolute truth. Fun, right? Luckily, I was prepared for that moment by years of study!

So much for our introduction. Next month, I’ll have another article for you. And by the way, I’m stealing part of my signature from J.S. Bach (a Lutheran organist and choirmaster!) who signed his compositions “SDG”, meaning “Soli Deo Gloria” or “Glory to God Alone”.

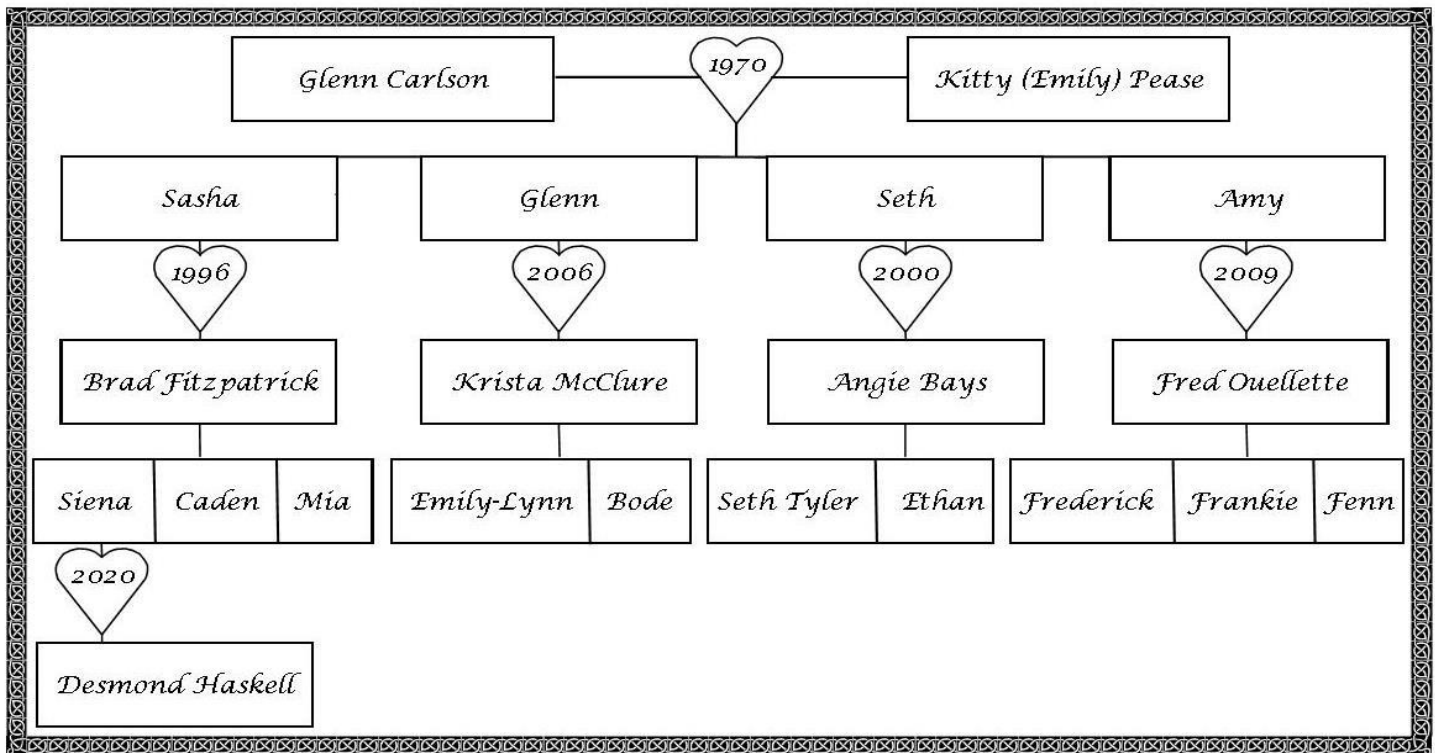
I will always welcome questions, comments and suggestions for articles. Feel free to call 207-223-3000 or write to [charles.j.macpherson@gmail.com](mailto:charles.j.macpherson@gmail.com).

- Charlie MacPherson, SDG

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# Member...Members...Family...Families of the Month!

Carlson – Fitzpatrick – Ouellette – Haskell



Kitty and Glenn met at a dance in Rockland (where Kitty grew up) when they were 15; and married 4 years later in a little white church in Friendship (where Glenn grew up). Following high school Kitty worked for CMP and Glenn for a construction firm, pouring concrete basements. A couple of years after the wedding, they moved to Waukesha, Wisconsin where Glenn began in HVAC. Their 4 children were born there—4, in 5 years! The Carlsons returned to Maine and settled in Winslow when Glenn’s work in HVAC took him to Hannaford Brothers, in Scarborough. The children were then 3, 5, 7, and 9 years old. (Glenn worked from home, travelling to Scarborough only a couple days/week—even pre-COVID!)

Kitty tells an adorable story regarding her name: When she was but a few months old, her mother started calling her Kitty. She says, “When I was young, I was glad my name was Kitty because Emily sounded so old. Now that I’m old, Kitty sounds too young for an old woman—LOL!” And now, there’s a precious granddaughter with the name Emily-Lynn after both of her wonderful grandmas!

When the children were grown, Kitty went to cosmetology school and eventually opened her own shop inside Granite Hill Estates—a senior living community. This was Kitty’s dream job—even to the setting of her hours so she always had 4-day weekends. Those of us who have beloved seniors in our lives, know that hair is a small part of going to “the salon,” it’s really more of a type of “therapy”—which Kitty verifies when she says, “I grew to love my clients and cherished all their stories about their lives.”

When asked what advice they might share, they answer: “Always put God first and trust Him.” To seniors they say, “live in the moment...every day is a gift...stay busy...give of yourself.” For youth: “BE YOU!...Follow your heart...never squelch your feelings...listen to your gut...God loves us all the same—you are just as important as anybody else regardless of the hand that you are dealt...don’t expect anything...work hard and always give God the Glory.” Glenn has a wise philosophy of life to share...he thinks all men should have the last two words...“Yes, Dear.” And Kitty says, “It works for me!”

Now retired for 5-6 years, Glenn enjoys playing golf and they both enjoy boating and riding ATV’s with all the kids and grandkids. They have 10 grandchildren (one in Heaven) from ages 5-24. They say, “Our family is everything to us. Life is good—God is good!”

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Love is the theme of this whole clan’s story: Sasha said, “We are a crazy family, but I love them all so much!” She and Brad have a dear love story—beginning on bus rides to/from school as they both lived on Abbott Road. When Sasha got

her driver's license and started taking her siblings to school, she and Brad waved to each other as she passed and he waited for the bus, and soon Brad had his own car as well. They missed their bus-ride talks, but remained friends through high school. After graduation, Brad went off to the Art Institute of Boston and Sasha to University of Maine-Farmington for a B.S.Ed. They became pen pals, spoke on the phone, and visited during weekends home. It was then that they realized they were more than just friends.

The early years of marriage and parenthood were very challenging—as careers and parenting skills were developed. Sasha and Brad are blessed with three children. As Brad's graphic artist career got underway, he was given an incredible opportunity with a great company, in New Hampshire. Eight years later, he started his own business, Fitzillo, Inc., bringing the family back to Maine—just days after Caden was born—and they began building a home on Abbott Road! While Fitzillo was new, Sasha opened a preschool in their home—fulfilling her love of teaching and enabling her to be home with their own children—then 9, and 1. Four years later, with Brad's business established, they closed the preschool so Sasha could dedicate her time to rearing their children and homeschooling. Sasha is thankful for the years she homeschooled and believes it will be her proudest accomplishment. Brad is in his 18th year of Fitzillo and Sasha is now working as a financial advisor with Edward Jones. When not at work, Brad enjoys fishing and hunting while Sasha loves reading and shopping. They feel they've been blessed with all they need and more, and look forward to their new home on the lake—creating more beautiful memories with their children, family, and grandchildren to come!

After 16 years in their Abbott Road Home, they sold this cherished home. They currently live in their camp as they build a home on Pattee Pond in Winslow. Oldest daughter, Siena, who joined the independent life after high school, just married Desmond Haskell in October—the same day that Kitty and Glenn celebrated their 50th anniversary! Caden, in 11th grade, loves drawing and is working as an apprentice for Dad in hopes of one day taking over the family business. He also works for Uncle Fred helping in property maintenance. Caden loves sports—playing football, basketball, and baseball—as going fishing. Mia, now in 8th grade, is eager to get a work permit so she can work at the Proper Pig! In the meantime, she keeps busy babysitting. She loves sports—soccer, basketball, softball—and also enjoys arts and crafts, but loves most to socialize and have fun with her friends!

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Another branch of this family's love is Glenn and Krista's beautiful story: They graduated from Winslow school one year apart, but did not connect until years after college. (Krista actually attended LCR as a child—the only one in the Sunday School at that time!) They started their life together in Gorham, NH where Glenn worked in sales for a chemical company serving the pulp and paper industry. Glenn changed careers, becoming a financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments; and along with baby Emmy, they returned to Maine in 2008 when Glenn transferred his business to Belfast. Bode was born in 2009, and the family has lived in Palermo for 12 years.

Glenn enjoys spending time with family outdoors no matter the season, and especially enjoys snowmobiling and ATV riding. Krista enjoys supporting the kids in their extra-curricular activities and caring for the family's pets: Pike, the “goofy” yellow lab and three cats. Krista also enjoys exploring the expansive forest behind their house with her trail camera, on which she has captured moose, bobcat, deer, fox, and coyote!

Emily-Lynn (nickname Emmy), in 8th grade at Mount Merici Academy, loves school and socializing with her friends. She is involved in dance classes (is on the Kennebec Dance Centre dance team), voice lessons, and rehearsing for the latest musical that she's in—currently, Winnie Foster in Tuck Everlasting at the Waterville Opera House. (With the virus putting things on hold, Emmy's eager to get back on stage.) Other activities for Emmy include downhill skiing, and bike riding. Looking ahead, she thinks of maybe following Dad into financial advising, teaching elementary school, or being involved with theater after college. Bode, in 5th grade at Mount Merici Academy, also stays busy: He's a math whiz and very creative with a big heart! Though appearing quiet at first, when you get to know Bode, he can talk your ear off! Though small in physical stature, Bode is great at basketball because his competitive spirit and determination make him hard to beat. He also loves downhill skiing, video games, and along with Emmy, swimming with cousins at camp in the summer. Looking ahead, Bode thinks he might like to produce/edit video games when he grows up.

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As we peek into Seth and Angie's story, we see the theme of love continuing its glow! Theirs is a love that began when they were active-duty military on a small island in Japan. They married a few short months after meeting while in the Air Force, but had to spend their first year of marriage in two different countries because of military commitments. Seth Tyler was born—called Tyler to avoid confusion—and though on this earth just a few short weeks before being taken home to Heaven, he was a loved and cherished baby. Kitty and Seth performed little Tyler's baptism, and there is no doubt a joyous reunion awaiting the whole Carlson family when they are joined again with Tyler. Two years later, just before the birth of their second child, Angie was diagnosed with MS (multiple sclerosis). It was a heartbreaking time, saying goodbye to Tyler and learning of this diagnosis—so the birth of Ethan in 2004 was a joyous Godsend. In fact, Ethan is a product of Seth and Angie...right in the middle of them, he is! It's said he's the heart of them: sETHAngie!



Angie says, “We are always taking chances!” So, in 2017, they decided to take another chance, and travelled down to New York City for MS treatment by one of the leading MS doctors in the world! Angie was put into an FDA-approved Stem Cell trial. She has a little over a year to go and there is great hope that this treatment will heal the damage that has been done to Angie’s body. Angie says, “We’re still taking chances, still loving life, and continuing to see life’s blessings in all around us! God is good!”

This family hopes to go through life with lots of adventures, stories, and laughs. They want to be able to spend every moment with family and friends with no regrets. This includes having adopted Rascal, a 3-year old dog from a high-kill shelter in Texas last year: Per DNA testing to determine his breed, it turns out that Rascal is 100%, unique, Mega Mutt!

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Outside of work, interests are spending time with friends and family, ATVing, and attending all the sports in which the children are involved. Freddie loves playing Legos, building and fixing bikes, playing soccer, basketball, and baseball. Frankie loves crafts, playing teacher, and enjoys basketball, softball, and field hockey. Fenn loves playing with trucks outside in the mud and playing basketball and soccer. They all enjoy summers on the island and at the family's camp on Pattee Pond.

From left to right: Ethan, Angie, Seth, Rascal, Siena, Desmond, Mia, Caden, Sasha, Brad, Kitty, Glenn Sr., Fenn, Frankie, Frederick, Ernie, Amy, Fred, Emmy, Pike, Krista, Bode, and Glenn Jr. Not pictured: Felines Latte Fitzpatrick; Phantom, Tiger, and Casper Carlson (Glenn Jr.).





## **Monthly Worship**

**December 6, 2020**

**Second Sunday in Advent**

**Psalm:** 85

**First Reading:** Isaiah 40:1-11

**Epistle:** 2 Peter 3:8-14

**Holy Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

**December 13, 2020**

**Third Sunday in Advent**

**Psalm:** 126

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**Epistle:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Holy Gospel:** John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 20, 2020**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Psalm:** 89:1-5, (19-25)

**First Reading:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

**Epistle:** Romans 16:25-27

**Gospel:** Luke 1:26-38

**December 24, 2020**

**The Nativity of Our Lord  
(Christmas Eve)**

**First Reading:** Genesis 3:1-15

**Second Reading:** Isaiah 9:2-7

**Third Reading:** Micah 5:2-5a

**Holy Gospel:** Luke 2:1-20

**December 25, 2020**

**The Nativity of Our Lord  
(Christmas Day)**

**Psalm:** 2

**First Reading:** Isaiah 52:7-10

**Epistle:** Hebrews 1:1-6 (7-12)

**Holy Gospel:** John 1:1-18

**December 27, 2020**

**First Sunday after Christmas**

**Psalm:** 111

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:10—62:3

**Epistle:** Galatians 4:4-7

**Holy Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40

## **BIBLE QUIZ**

**1. Who was the evil queen who ruled Judah for seven years?**

A) Queen Athaliah B) Queen Jezebel (C) Queen Esther (D) Queen Vashti

**2. Which law of physics did God defy when He called Moses to lead His people?**

A) a flock of sheep started mooing like cows B) a desert bush was on fire but did not burn up C) the skies turned bright yellow instead of blue D) the waters parted to make a dry path

**3. Who was the baby who leaped inside his Mother's womb at the sound of Mary's voice?**

A) Jesus B) James C) John the Baptist D) Joseph

**4. When should we obey our bosses at work?**

A) when they are looking B) when they are worth our time C) never if they are untrustworthy D) always, whether they deserve it or not

**5. What was the relationship between James and John?**

A) they were cousins B) they were brothers (C) they were father and son D) they were uncle and nephew

**6. Who said this: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men?"**

A) Levites B) prophets C) Jesus D) angels





12/3 Ruth Milhous  
 12/10 Elizabeth Akers  
 12/11 Robert Sieber  
 12/12 Maira Goldsmith  
 12/13 Sharon Conover  
 Allison Farr  
 12/14 Dawn Buck  
 Evelyn Gaug  
 12/15 Ethan Carlson  
 12/20 Benjamin Schiebel  
 12/23 Dan Callahan  
 12/25 Evelyn Gilbert  
 12/27 Natalie Crowley  
 12/31 Matthew Esculano



## BAPTISM BIRTHDAY

12/10 Gail Maestas  
 12/17 Dawn Buck  
 12/21 Evan Farr  
 Hayley Farr  
 12/25 Dottie Evertson



## Confirmation Anniversary

12/17 Esther Gould  
 John Gould  
 12/19 Rick Dostie



12/16 Fernando & Mari Gouvea  
 12/20 Peter & Lois Doran  
 12/27 Dan & Sharon Callahan

## Tickling the Funny Bone

A minister and a senator arrived at the Pearly Gates at the same time, and being a humble fellow, the minister motioned for the senator to speak with St. Peter first.

“Senator, we’ve been expecting you. Welcome! Please, step into this limo. It will take you to the finest mansion we have.”

Next, the minister approached. “Hello, Pastor,” St. Peter welcomed him. “Here comes the shuttle bus to take you to your economy suite.”

“Wait a moment.” The minister was mystified. “I have served the Lord faithfully for many years. An economy suite is my reward?”

St. Peter smiled as he replied, “Well, we get ministers up here regularly, but this is the first senator we’ve ever had.”

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A pastor known for his extremely lengthy sermons noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the conclusion of the service. Afterward, the pastor asked the man where he had gone.

“I went to get a haircut,” was the reply.

“Why didn’t you do that before the service?” the pastor demanded.

“I didn’t need one then,” the gentleman answered.

## Bible Quiz Answers

1. A (2Kings 11:1-3)
2. B (Exodus 3:1-2)
3. C (Luke 1:41, 44, 60; 3:2-3)
4. D (Ephesians 6:5-6)
5. B (Mark 3:17)
6. D (Luke 2:13-14)

# The Daily Lectionary

A guide to help you be in the Word daily

12/1	Isaiah 7:10-8:8 / 1 Peter 3:1-22
12/2	Isaiah 8:9-9:7 / 1 Peter 4:1-19
12/3	Isaiah 9:8-10:11 / 1 Peter 5:1-14
12/4	Isaiah 10:12-27, 33-34 / 2 Peter 1:1-21
12/5	Isaiah 11:1-12:6 / 2 Peter 2:1-22
12/6	Isaiah 14:1-23 / 2 Peter 3:1-18
12/7	Isaiah 24:1-13 / 1 John 1:1-2:14
12/8	Isaiah 24:14-25:12 / 1 John 2:15-29
12/9	Isaiah 26:1-19 / 1 John 3:1-24
12/10	Isaiah 26:20-27:13 / 1 John 4:1-21
12/11	Isaiah 28:14-29 / 1 John 5:1-21
12/12	Isaiah 29:1-14 / Jude 1-25
12/13	Isaiah 29:15-30:14 / Revelation 1:1-20
12/14	Isaiah 30:15-26 / Revelation 2:1-29
12/15	Isaiah 30:27-31:9 / Revelation 3:1-22
12/16	Isaiah 32:1-20 / Revelation 4:1-11
12/17	Isaiah 33:1-24 / Revelation 5:1-14
12/18	Isaiah 34:1-2,8-35:10 / Revelation 6:1-17
12/19	Isaiah 40:1-17 / Revelation 7:1-17
12/20	Isaiah 40:18-41:10 / Revelation 8:1-13
12/21	Isaiah 42:1-25 / Revelation 9:1-12
12/22	Isaiah 43:1-24 / Revelation 9:13-10:11
12/23	Isaiah 43:25-44:20 / Revelation 11:1-19
12/24	Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25 / Revelation 12:1-17
12/25	Isaiah 49:1-18 / Matthew 1:1-17
12/26	Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16 / Matthew 1:18-25
12/27	Isaiah 51:17-52:12 / Matthew 2:1-12
12/28	Isaiah 52:13-54:10 / Matthew 2:13-23
12/29	Isaiah 55:1-13 / Luke 1:1-25
12/30	Isaiah 58:1-59:3,14-21 / Luke 1:26-38
12/31	Isaiah 60:1-22 / Luke 1:39-56

*(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)*

## Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Do one reading in the morning and the other in the evening.*
- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you in this reading.*
- *If you miss a day or two (or three) and fall behind, don't worry and don't quit! Either set aside some time to catch up or skip those readings and move on.*
- *If you're using another reading schedule or guide, stick with it. The important thing is to be in the Word daily.*