



# The Shepherd

Education Hour 9:30  
Worship Service 10:30  
Scott Hofmann, Pastor  
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Inviting all to live in God's Grace

A publication of  
St. James Lutheran  
Church  
PO Box 191  
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Editor: M'Liss Schneider  
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February 2012

Dear Friends in Christ,

The voice of God is best heard, I think, when we keep silent and listen. In the silence, a still, small voice echoes in our head with sounds of the splashing waters of our baptism as God opens the heavens saying, "You are my beloved."

In the silence, the Word made flesh provides spiritual food with bread and wine saying, "Do this in remembrance of me." In the silence, the sound of pounding nails in the body is overcome with the cry "It is finished." In the silence, the rumble of a rolling gravestone echoes with angels' alleluias, "He is risen!"

As we begin our Lenten season this month our hearts and minds turn to the last days of Christ's life. May we become more aware, in this season, of what Christ's life, death, and resurrection means for each of us.

And through this awareness, then, when we listen, we can hear the Lamb on the throne of God saying, "Let everyone who hears, 'Come.'"

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Scott

## Refocus for Lent

- Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.
- Give up harsh judgments—think kind thoughts.
- Give up worry—trust God to provide
- Give up discouragement—be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred—return good for evil.
- Give up anger—be more patient.
- Give up pettiness—become mature.
- Give up jealousy—pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping—control your tongue.
- Give up sin—turn to virtue.



Wednesday, February 22 is Ash Wednesday.

We will have a Lenten meal at 6 p.m. and our Lenten service will begin at 7 p.m.

If you'd like to help with a meal, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in church.

Even though you might not sign up, you are still welcome to come to the meal at six.

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Pastor Scott will be attending a Workshop in Seguin February 4th.

On February 13-15, Pastor Scott will be at First Call Theological Education.

On February 15 St. James will provide devotions at Fbg' Nursing Home at 1:30 and TriStar Nursing Home at 3:30.

# stewardship

## General Fund

### December 2011

Income	
Current Offering	\$ 9,233.00
Mission support	220.00
Education Income	16.00
Transfer In	<u>3,622.75</u>

Total receipts 13,091.75

Disbursements \$ 14,216.11

## Building Fund

Income:	
Offering	\$ 270.00
Memorials	<u>235.00</u>

Total \$ 505.00

Expense	
Transfer to Designated	\$ 45.00

## Designated Fund

Income	
Nativity Scene	303.00
Harper Com. Chest	70.00
Interest Inc.	2.19
Transfer In	<u>980.00</u>

Total Income \$ 1,355.19

Expense	
Nativity Scene	283.02
Pension & Medical	3,622.75
Transfer to Gen. Fund	935.00

## OUR MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES

Pete Marschall — Knopp #1 Fbg'

Elnora Strackbein — Knopp #1 Fbg'

Johanna Wendel — Knopp #1 Fbg'



Council Meeting January 2, 2012

The Church Council held their December monthly meeting on January 2, 2012 with all members and Pastor Hofmann present.

Loye thanked Pastor Scott and Sandy for spear heading the Children's Christmas program. Loye volunteered to serve as a contact for Cross Trails Ministries and their camping programs and retreats.

Otto reported that some additional repair was necessary on the replacement of the heater/air conditioning unit. Cause of the duct damage was attributed to an opossum. Special offering for January will be directed to the Annual Sweetheart Banquet. The February special offering will go towards the Harper Community Chest.

Discussion followed on the financial situation of the congregation which will be presented at the congregation annual meeting.

## ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting held on January 29th new council members were elected. They are Amanda Bennett, Ron Kettler, and Dan Leyendecker. Eileen Meyer was elected to a second term. They will join Andree Bode, Frances Dendy, Rick Ertel, and Pam Ransleben.

The main order of business was the naming of a committee to study the condition of the Parsonage. They are Kenny Bode, Doris Heuerman, Keith Keller, Roy Kasper, Otto Kurth, Danny Meyer, and Bill Ransleben. It will also include the council person in charge of buildings.

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Our sympathy is extended to Pastor Scott and Sandy on the death of Scott's mother, Mrs. Travis Hofmann. Funeral services were held January 27th at Zion Lutheran in Fredericksburg with burial in the Mason cemetery

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.



## Nursing Home Devotions



Wednesday, February 15th, Pastor Scott will lead the devotions at two Nursing Homes in Fredericksburg.

All women are invited to meet at the church at 12:45 to go to the nursing homes to assist Pastor Scott or meet at Fredericksburg Nursing Home at 1:30 and TriStar at 3:30.

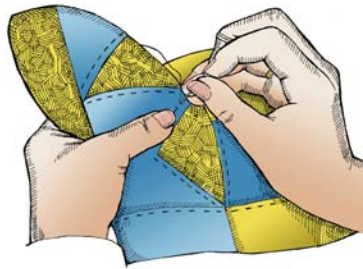
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### Prayer for Presidents' Day

Lord of heaven and earth, we offer you our deepest appreciation for this blessed land. Stir up a sense of stewardship in every citizen so we all may care for our nation and each inhabitant of it.

We pray especially for our leaders. Prompt everyone in a position of authority, from local to national leaders, to strive for righteousness, justice and the welfare of all citizens.

Finally, we pray that we may be ever mindful of the psalmist's teaching that "Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord." (Psalm 22:12) May that promise become real "from sea to shining sea." Amen



## QUILTING PARTY

We will be tacking quilts for Lutheran World Relief on Tuesday, February 14th beginning at 8 a.m.

Join us for fun, work and fellowship while tacking and bring a lunch to share.

### THRIVENT INFO

Pedernales River Chapter 30141 of Thrivent International gave a First Communion Card and Communion Prayer magnetic bookmark to Kelen Bode in January and will give Kolbie Guerrero the same in February at her First Communion. We are more than blessed to have these young ladies worshipping with us here at St. James.

The 'Dreams Fulfilled Through Music' musical performers will be a part of our Sunday morning service on Feb. 12th. I have requested funding from Thrivent to add to our offering for this group and the offerings from the other six Harper churches. These offerings and Thrivent's funding are used by this group for education. Please look forward to their musical presentation and open your hearts and hands to help this magnificent group's work.

Harper churches are cherished by members of 'Dreams Fulfilled Through Music' as we share our love of God with them and they work hard in preparation to share that same love with us.

The Thrivent new program offer for aiding us against Identity Theft is explained on the Thrivent website [www.thrivent.com/community/membership/benefits](http://www.thrivent.com/community/membership/benefits). There you will be able to read about the Identity Theft Protection. Services are provided through an exclusive plan for Thrivent Financial members. There are two levels of protection available. Should you not have access to the internet contact me and I will help you locate all the information.

Next month we will review other "Member Benefits" and how to sign up to receive them online or through the mail. Also how to become an associate Thrivent member. Our email address is [sal-ronket@yahoo.com](mailto:sal-ronket@yahoo.com) or call my local cell number 928-1582.

Sally & Ron Kettler  
Thrivent Advocates

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Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pew.

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

In preparation of writing and finishing the history book of St. James, we would like to confirm to those who have turned in stories that we have your compilation. Those who have not—please do so as soon as you can. Also, anyone wishing to submit a picture to go in the book should do that to Fran Dendy. Thanks for all your hard work and participation.  
Peggy Ernst

### **Histories received as of January 28, 2012**

Chester & Norma Bernhard (includes Dennis & Connie Bernhard, Bonnie & Stan Phelps, Eileen & Danny Meyer, Amber Boatright & families)

Marcus Bigott

Doug & Doylene Bode

Ruth & Clifford Bode

John & Brenda Brown, Kelly & Shanna

Roland & Paula Deike

Edwin & Alma Dittmar

Peggy Ernst

Rick & Stephanie Ertel

Nancy Evertson (includes James & family)

Elbert & Myrtle Feller

Louis & Ida Feller & family

Herbert & Ernestine Feller, Herbert Jr., Danny, Laurie, Vanessa, David & families

Louis & Emilie Grosenbacher (includes background on Pastor Clifford Grosenbacher)

Wendy & Johnny Garza, Daniel

Gene & Ursula Harper, Mitchell, Bobby, Tamra & families

Morris & Kathy Harper, Ross, Nicole & families

John & Adeline Honig, Vickie, Connie & families

Chester & Bessie Itz (includes Ola & Al Armstrong & Lamar

Roy & Sharon Kasper

Keith & Marjorie Keller

Ron & Sally Kettler

Helen Kirchhoff

Otto & Debra Kurth

Craig Lange

Elmer & Joyce Lange

Max & Sarah Lange

Ruth Ann & Carl Lemmerbrock

Larry Mauldin

Lawrence & Dorothy Metzger,

Frank, Langford & Lawrence, Jr.

Henry Moellendorf, Sr. Family

Theodore Moellendorf Family

John Molder Family

Herbie & Hulda Oehler (includes

Kenneth & Margie Oehler, Delbert & June Oehler)

Elizabeth & Hubert Rahe, Diann,

Hardin, Shirlene, Gene, Lorna & families

Bill & Pam Ransleben

Gayle & Ron Reed

Martin & Ida Rode

Jalyn & Jim Sivells (includes August Ernst)

Alfred & Lillie Spaeth

Janice Spaeth

Raymond & Laura Spaeth

(includes M'Liss & Myron Schneider)

August & Augusta Strackbein

(includes Opal & Aubrey Harper)

Lorenz & Wilhelmina Wendel, Sr.

Lorenz & Alma Wendel, Jr.

Milton & Magdalena Wendel,

Marion, Lorenz

Clifford & Corine Wienecke

Delton & Elva Wilson, David,

Donald & Debbie

### **PASTORS:**

Willfred Bigott

W.E. Doerr

Clarence Rose

William 'Bill' Hill

Tim Muehlbrad

Robert Hetrick

Remembrances of Walter Wolf

Walter Probst, Jr.

## **January Visitors at St. James**

John, Lauren & Haley Jodoin, Harper

Milton & Maxine Young, Fbg'

Harry Stout, San Antonio

Nea Lea, Mountain Home

Timmy & Mikki Beseda,

Montgomery

Mike & Marie Zenner, Porter

David & Sandra Nash, Corpus

Daniel Wheeler, Harper

Clifford & Bertha Staudt, Fbg'

The youth will have a swimming party at the Wellness Center cement pond on February 18th.

## **FEBRUARY CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SCHEDULE**

5 Larry Mauldin

12 Stephanie Ertel

19 Connie Bernhard

25 Ruth Ann Lemmerbrock



**EPHESIANS 2:8, NRSV**

## FEBRUARY

- 4 Pastor's Workshop at Seguin
- 5 9:30 Education Hour  
10:30 Worship/Holy Communion
- 6 6:30 Men's Breakfast
- 8 2:00 Sarah Circle
- 11 Sweetheart Banquet
- 12 9:30 Education Hour  
10:30 Worship
- 13 6:00 Walk thru Grief
- 14 8:00 Quilting
- 15 Nursing Home devotions  
6:30 Choir Practice
- 18 Youth Swimming at Wellness Center
- 19 9:30 Education Hour  
10:30 Worship/Holy Communion  
Kolbie Guerrero's first communion
- 22 Ash Wednesday  
6:00 Meal  
7:00 Ash Wednesday Service
- 26 9:30 Education Hour  
10:30 Worship  
Council Meeting
- 26 Deadline for March newsletter
- 29 6:00 Lenten Meal  
7:00 Lenten Service

It is our privilege to have the fabulous Dream's Fulfilled Through Music and the Alamo Angels at St. James on Feb 12 and will be performing for all of the Harper Churches again this year. Don't miss them.



## FEBRUARY

- 5 Lloyd & Barbara Kneese
- 12 Otto & Debbie Kurth
- 19 Craig Lange
- 26 Joyce Lange

When placing flowers on the altar, please remove them after the church service.



## February

- 5 Halli Lovell
- 12 Cooper Boatright
- 19 Kelan Bode
- 26 Savanna Bennett

## Men's Watershed Breakfast

Monday Feb. 6



## February

- Council: Eileen Meyer, Pam Ransleben
- Lay Reader: Larry Mauldin
- Communion Assistant: Larry Mauldin
- Greeters: Bill & Pam Ransleben
- Altar Guild: Amanda Bennett



- 1 Tristan Sivells
- 3 Bill Ransleben
- 4 Kim Krueger
- 6 Larry Mauldin
- 10 James Rodriguez
- 11 Stephen Ecklund
- 11 Roy Sanders
- 11 Gloria Dromgoole
- 16 Ernestine Feller
- 18 Scott Krueger
- 22 Clint Lewis
- 22 James Evertson
- 25 Travis Brown
- 26 Ron Kettler

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Kerry & Karrie Schmidt
- 23 James & Paula Wienecke
- 25 Harry & Livvy Wilke

Please let me know of any corrections or additions. M'Liss