

December 2021 Newsletter
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
2903 State Hwy. 155
Sayner, WI 54560-9698



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Contact secretary@SOTLSayner.com with your email address.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Worship Service: Sunday 9:00 AM

*EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ROOTED IN THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE A LOVING
COMMUNITY THAT FOLLOWS JESUS, AND SEEKS TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD
AND PRACTICE IT IN OUR DAILY LIVES.*

Ministers: The People of the Parish
William Wendorf LLM: Cell 715-617-6477
Council President: Bill Sima Home 715-542-4375
Church Telephone: 715-542-3701

On the World Wide Web:
www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org
www.nglsynod.org



Council Members:

Bill Wendorf, LLM, Cell 715-617-6477

Sharon Geist, Cell 715-892-7486

Jack Carlson, Vice President Cell 612-889-1250

Bill Sima, President Cell 847-987-9291

Jeanne Kroll, Home 715-542-2797

Lyn Hurbanis, Home 715-605-2575

Mike Pockat, Home 715-356-1058

Joan Ebert, Cell 239-910-3986

Tracey Ahlborn, Cell 612-716-6008

Office Hours

Bill Wendorf LLM's office hours:

Wednesdays 9 AM to 2 PM

Fridays 9 AM to 2 PM

Or by Appointment

Next scheduled printings of this newsletter!

Month	Date Articles are Due (Thursday)	Printing Date (Saturday)
January 2022	13 th	15 th
February 2022	17 th	19 th
March 2022	17 th	19 th

Email articles to secretary@SOTLsayner.com
Thank you.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday Morning at 9:00 am

RECORDED SERMONS: Sunday services at Shepherd of the Lakes are Live-Streamed at 9:00 am. The services are also recorded and put on YouTube and will be available for viewing later on Sundays. Go to shepherdofthelakeschurch.org and on the Home Page, look for the YouTube link. Previously uploaded services are available on the link.

If you would like a copy of the current worship guide please look for the “**Bulletin**” page on the Church Website. You can open the files and print.

ONLINE GIVING: Also available on the Church website is a link to PayPal for online giving.

DEVOTION

² In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while^[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem The town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Dear Lord,

We thank you for the gift of your Son. Amen

PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION

We are collecting pill bottles, DARK BROWN ONLY. Please remove the labels and put the bottles in the container in the coat room.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Please continue to save cancelled stamps throughout the year. There is a collection box on the coat room shelf.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
Sayner, Wisconsin



And in the same region there were shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. “WHAT?” SHEPHERDS, quick lock the doors and act like there is no body home.

This probably sounds very strange, but in many cases, this is how people of villages and towns reacted when shepherds showed up in the neighborhood. You see, unlike the quiet humble figures we see in the many Christmas pageants that will reenact and tell again the story of our Saviors birth, shepherds were not always a welcome sight to the people living in these places. Shepherds and their flocks would seemingly show up out of nowhere just outside of town, stay as long as it took to graze off the land surrounding the town, and then move on during the night, leaving the villagers to wonder where they had gone, with many of the villager’s personal possessions missing.

Now as with all things, I am sure that does not describe all shepherds, but unfortunately, that was the reputation. And yet it was these shepherds, the lowly, meek, humble, (and not always trustworthy) of the earth, that were the first to receive and hear the proclamation of the Christ child’s birth. This pronouncement did not come first to emperors, kings, governors, pharisees, Sadducees, or anyone else of earthly authority that may not believe the proclamation, or worse yet, try to suppress it. It came to those most in need of hope, which would believe it, embrace it, and proclaim it. In doing this, God made it clear that the gift of this child, his Son, was a gift given, and promise fulfilled for all mankind, regardless of your place in the world.

Each Christmas season I enjoy watching 2 or 3 different versions of Charles Dickens “A Christmas Carol”, and it never ceases to amaze me that each year I take away from each, something I did not before, and this year was no exception. As the Spirit of Christmas present was showing Ebenezer about. I believe it was Tiny Tim that began to sing “Silent Night”, and at that, the Spirit of Christmas present took Ebenezer all across the globe to small villages and homes in the far north, south, east, and west. To light houses where there was only the keeper of the house and his wife. To an off shore fishing boat in the Mediterranean, with four crew members. To soldiers or police officers standing watch, and to many other places and people of all races. And they all had one thing in common, they were all singing “Silent Night”. So, the proclamation of this great gift that started with shepherds in that same region, now spans the globe, bringing good news of great joy to all people.

Now there are those that would like to remove Christ from Christmas, or for that matter, get rid of Christmas all together. But fear not, for God in his infinite wisdom, entrusted the telling of this story, “The greatest gift ever given and The beginning of the greatest story ever told”, with those who believe it, embrace it, and who would share it with all. These are the lowly and mighty, the meek and bold, those of much and those of little. Living all over the world in the promise and hope the Christ child brings. And in doing so, Christ will always be,

as they say "The Reason For The Season" . A season of love, joy, kindness, giving, receiving, forgiveness, and hope.

If you are wondering what these story tellers look like, you only need look in the mirror. Yes, these story tellers look much like you and me.... Wait a minute, you and I are the story tellers just as the shepherds were long ago. And as Christmas approaches we go forth with the same message first proclaimed to a simple, humble, band of shepherds, which is now ours to tell and share. May your Christmas be blessed, and may you be a blessing to others in the sharing of this wonderful story, the greatest gift ever given.

For unto you is born in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: you shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased."

Merry Christmas
Bill †



Christmas At Church

6 year old boy: "I don't want to go to church on Christmas"

Mother: "It's important to go celebrate the birth of Jesus"

6 year old boy: "But we don't even KNOW him!"

Sending Christmas cards is a good way to let your friends and family know that you think they're worth the price of a stamp.

- Melanie White

Some businessmen are saying that this could be the greatest Christmas ever.

I always thought the first one was.

- Art Fetting

May your longest list this Christmas be the one that counts your blessings.

- Unknown Author

"Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store.

Maybe Christmas ... perhaps ... means a little bit more!"

- Dr. Seuss

I note a certain irony as we celebrate the birth of Christ and I take his name in vain 67 times putting up Christmas lights.

- Kent Graham @KentWGraham

CHURCH COUNCIL SUMMARY

The next council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 10:30 am.

Approved Council Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2021

In Attendance: Jack Carlson, Joan Ebert, Sharon Geist, Lyn Hurbanis, Jeanne Kroll, Jean Maines, Mike Pockat, Bill Sima, and Bill Wendorf, LLM.

Absent: Tracey Ahlborn.

Meeting called to order at 10:51 am by President Bill Sima. Mission Statement read aloud by all. Bill Wendorf, LLM opened with prayer.

Pastor's Report:

- No home visits, and vacation time off.
- Funeral service at Pioneer Lake Lutheran Church.

Treasurer's Report:

- October checks reviewed by Lyn Hurbanis with no issues.

Old Business:

- Still trying to schedule tile backsplash installation for kitchen
- New sign completed and installed.
- Discussion concerning how to increase online giving.
- Trivia Contest: Jack will be working with Jan for spring event.

New Business:

- Lyn will not be on council for 2022. Discussion of backup for check review duties.
- 2020 Proposed budget handed out for review before December meeting.
- Discussion concerning subcontractors or employees allowed to be on council.
- Discussion concerning storage uses.
- Discussion concerning communion distributors wearing masks, and at this point that practice will continue.

Adjourned meeting with Lord's Prayer.

**Thank
You!**

THANK YOU'S

Thank you notes received from:

ALWM (Vital Links)

HYF Dr. Kate Hospice

Caritas

Frederick House(NATH)

Community Food Pantry

Vilas Food Pantry

Fortune Lake

COVID Policy

SOTL will strive to establish a safe environment for all parishioners to worship following our mission statement. We will respect the feedback and opinions of all our members, visitors, parishioners, and SOTL council members while we work through the evolving situation. We will use CDC guidelines, local health board recommendations, and community feedback, but most importantly provide the opportunity for each parishioner to choose how they will participate and protect themselves.

COVID Guidelines: “Be aware, but not afraid” to quote a SOTL Council Member

- Vaccinations for our SOTL parishioners and staff are voluntary. It is a personal choice depending upon each own healthcare plan.
- Masking guidelines will be reviewed and approved by the SOTL council based upon CDC guidelines, local health boards, community practices, and members/visitor feedback.
 - Privacy issues surround this issue. Medical privacy is a serious consideration.
 - As of this revision, CDC guidelines recommend masks for various individuals, and we are allowing each parishioner and staff to decide if masking is appropriate for themselves.
 - If the time comes to require masks to be worn, all will be asked to wear masks.
- Communion
 - Masks and hand sanitizing are required to be worn while presenting communion and for those preparing the sacraments before service.
 - We will not allow an individual to hand-select their communion wafer since it could expose other wafers during the process.
 - Offer the choice of dipping the communion wafer or use of individual disposable glass.
- Changes to our plan taken in August 2021 to prevent COVID transmissions:
 - Improvement to cleaning services.
 - Deep cleaning of restrooms, community room, kitchen, chapel, and high touch/use surfaces.
 - Plans for cleaning if Saturday services or community use of rooms without 4 days of non-use.
 - Building HVAC “constant on” while being used, auto during non-use time.
 - Restroom exhaust fans checked and working normally.
 - MERV 13 air filters to be installed by end of September to help provide additional filtering.
 - Recommend social distancing and frequent hand washing/sanitizing.
 - Remind covering cough and sneezes.
 - Offertory baskets once again out in Narthex. No plate passing.
 - Passing of Peace from seats.
 - Hand sanitizer was placed throughout the church.
- We have made great improvements to allow our parishioners and visitors to participate in our services through 5 different options based upon the individual’s personal choice:
 - In-person services inside the chapel.
 - In-person services outside (during summer months weather permitting).
 - 2 SOTL inside locations outside of the chapel via TV live broadcast.
 - Remotely via YouTube Live.
 - Remotely via recorded YouTube playback.
- The congregation will be asked to notify the executive council of any confirmed cases where SOTL parishioners or visitors may have been exposed.
 - Executive Council determination will be made with individual's written permission to release information to:
 - Only those potentially exposed or Congregation wide.
 - With or without an individual's name being released.
- SOTL Council will review monthly during council meetings and revise this Policy and Guidelines as needed.

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QUILTING

Please join us! The women of Shepherd of the Lakes will be quilting on the third Wednesday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. You do not have to be a quilter or own a sewing machine. If you can tie a knot, we want you. Everyone is welcome.

Our quilting ministry is community oriented. Finished quilts are donated once a year to the Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence in Rhineland.

We would like to increase our ministry and our sewing circle. Come and join the fun.

Dates:

January 19, 2021

February 16, 2021

March 16, 2021

We have all the supplies,
We just need your
smiling face.



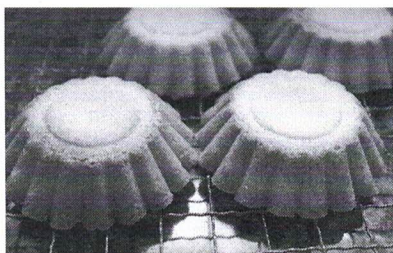
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RECIPE CORNER

Sandbakkels are a traditional Norwegian holiday cookie made with a crumbly dough that resembles “sand,” thus the name. They’re also called sandbakelse or sandkaker, similarly translating to sand cookies. Sometimes tiny bit of almond flour in these cookies helps create just the right sandy texture, other times a tiny bit of almond extract is added just for flavor. Traditional sandbakkemolds are used to create hollow cookie tarts. Sometimes they’re simple fluted round molds, and other times they’re more decorative shapes. Regardless the cookies are pressed into the mold to create a cup shape.

SANDBAKKELS (NORWEGIAN SUGAR COOKIES)

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/4 tsp almond extract
- 3 cups flour
- 1 pinch salt
-



Preheat the oven to 375 Degrees F.

Beat butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.

Add the egg and almond extract and mix to combine.

Add the flour and salt, stirring until just combined.

Form dough into balls and place in sandbakkemolds. Press with your thumb until the dough is spread thinly on the tin.

Bake at 375 F for 12 to 15 minutes.

CHILDRENS CORNER

Church School is open! All children from the community (ages 4 to grade 6) are welcome. Come and see: Bible stories, activities, crafts, and songs are ready for you.

HOMETOUCH® Activity Page

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Psalms 142-145

Monday: Psalms 146-147

Tuesday: Psalms 148-150

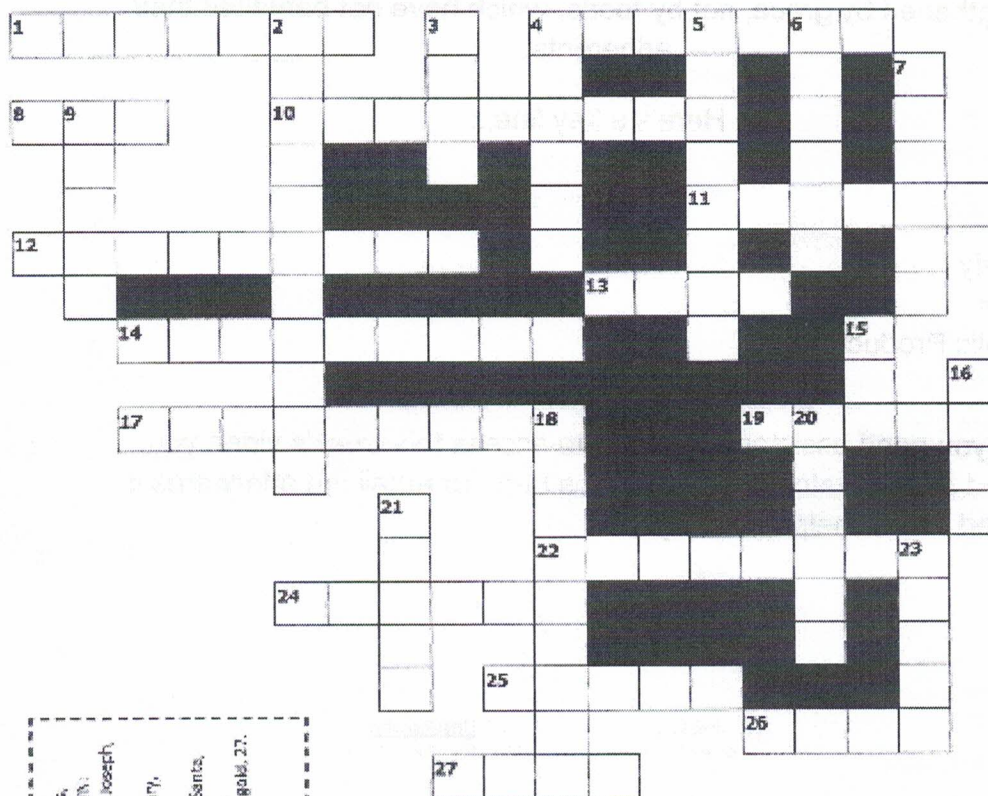
Wednesday: Revelation 13-15

Thursday: Revelation 16-18

Friday: Proverbs 8-11

Saturday: Proverbs 12-14

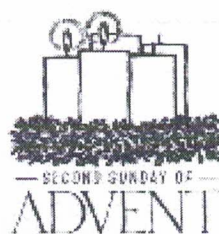
CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



CLUES

1. Has a red nose
2. Red plants
3. A nova
4. A savior
- 4 DOWN: Crib
5. Keeper of sheep
6. Coming
7. He was a carpenter
8. 12th month Abbr.)
9. Little helpers at North Pole
10. Enfleshed
11. Messiah composer
12. Of Ephrathah
13. Gabriel visited her
14. A form of holly
15. B & B
16. Wise men
17. Tree decorations
18. Patron saint of children
19. Red-suited man
20. Heavenly singers
21. Song
22. Home for Mary
23. He ordered the Slaughter of the Innocents

Answers: 1. Rudolph, 2. poinsettias, 3. star, 4 ACROSS: Messiah, 4 DOWN: manger, 5. shepherd, 6. advent, 7. Joseph, 8. Dec, 9. elves, 10. Innkeeper, 11. Handel, 12. Bethlehem, 13. Mary, 14. mistletoe, 15. inn, 16. magi, 17. amaranths, 18. Saint Nick, 19. Santa, 20. angels, 21. carol, 22. Nazareth, 23. Herod, 24. Christ, 25. gifts, 26. gold, 27. Luke.



24. Messiah
25. Presents
26. A gift of the wise men
27. Author of the most famous account of the birth of Jesus

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Ecclesiastes 7

Monday: Ecclesiastes 8

Tuesday: Ecclesiastes 9

Wednesday: Ecclesiastes 10

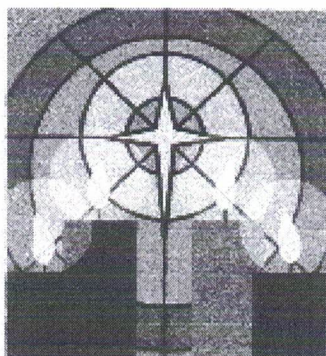
Thursday: Ecclesiastes 11

Friday: Ecclesiastes 12

Saturday: Song of Solomon 1-2

ZIG ZAG

Without lifting your pencil from the paper, move from square to square, vertically, horizontally or diagonally, to discover the longest possible name of a country from these letters.



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF Advent

Z	E	D	N
W	T	R	A
I	S	L	P

PROGRESSIVE WORDS

Can you get from the first word to the last by changing just one letter in each step?

PANTS

RUSTY

JOKER

ROWED

ANSWERS: Zig Zag - Switzerland; Progressive Words - pants, rusty, nuts, joker, power, mower, mowed

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Proverbs 15-18

Monday: Proverbs 19-21

Tuesday: Proverbs 22-24

Wednesday: Proverbs 25-28

Thursday: Proverbs 29-31

Friday: Ecclesiastes 1-3

Saturday: Ecclesiastes 4-6

CHANGE ONE LETTER AND FIND THE CITY!

Directions: For each of the three words below, change one letter to an O and then rearrange the letters to spell a major city of the world.

HIDDEN WORDS

Here are 10 words that can be rearranged to form another word. We've done the first one for you.

1. DECAL (laced)
2. WRONG
3. LIVED
4. LEMON
5. BURNT
6. THORN
7. LANCE
8. WASTE
9. MARCH
10. LEAST

P U L S E

--	--	--	--	--

V I C A R

--	--	--	--	--

C H A I N

--	--	--	--	--

 **DECEMBER**

Answers to Hidden Words (spelled backward): 2. nworl, 3. lived, 4. nolen, 5. tnurb, 6. tnro, 7. nalc, 8. tsew, 9. nrhc, 10. tse. Answers to Change One Letter and Find the City: Seoul, Cairo, Hanoi.



There's a Living Well with Chronic Conditions workshop starting soon near you!

Starting on Mondays

January 10-February 14, 2022

1:00-3:30 p.m.

Vilas County Courthouse

330 Court St

Eagle River, WI

Suggested Donation:
\$20 includes Healthy Living Book

Registration:
ADRC of Vilas County
at (715) 479-3625

Workshop Size is Limited

Help Yourself to Better Health

Living with a chronic condition such as arthritis, cancer, heart disease, or another on-going health problem can be physically, emotionally and financially draining.

Taking care of yourself is important. And you can! But you need the tools and knowledge to help you.

Living Well with Chronic Conditions can show you the way!

What is Living Well with Chronic Conditions? And why should I take it?

Living Well is focused on teaching you the skills to better manage your health and well-being. The workshop meets once a week for six weeks and has been studied and shown to help family caregivers:

- Short-term goal setting
- Healthy eating and nutrition: food label reading and meal planning
- Relaxation techniques
- Planning for the future
- Partnering with health provider
- Fitness for exercise & fun!
- Feedback and problem-solving
- Stress and depression management
- Communicating effectively with friends, family, and your medical team



PRAYER CONCERNS

Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Larry, Shelle, Cassie, Henry, and Melody.

Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:

Brian, Adam & Brittany, Brooks, Will, Sgt. Keara, Alex, Jared, Noah, and Zachary.

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Elisabeth.

Pray for those who have passed:

The family of Mel Harvey.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Your church family would like the opportunity to pray for you, make arrangements for you to receive Holy Communion, or support you by other means. Please contact us:

...if you or someone in your family are ill at home or hospitalized.

...if you are anticipating surgery or another medical procedure.

...if you have a birth or death in your family.

...if you want to request prayers for someone else, ask their permission first.

...if you have any other significant event in your family.

...if you would like to schedule a visit with Bill Wendorf LLM or another church member.

Never forget that each of you are valued, loved, and cared for by your church family. Please notify Bill Wendorf LLM at 715-617-6477 (pastor@SOTLsayner.com) or Jean Maines at 715-891-3344 (secretary@SOTLsayner.com) if you need prayers for any reason.

UPCOMING FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP EVENTS

Winter Wonderland Retreat: January 14-16, 2022

Disconnect to Connect Jr/Sr High Retreat: February 4-5, 2022


Nurturing Wholeness Retreat for Young Adults: February 11-13, 2022

Building on Faith Youth Retreat for 3-6 Grades: February 25-26, 2022

Please see posters on bulletin board in front entry!



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Pantry Needs <i>Food pantry</i> items needed for the month of December Baking items including sugar, flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, brown sugar, powdered sugar, other spices, cookie cutters, cookie decorating items Place items in the appropriate containers in the Coat Room.			1 3:45 PM Children's Classes	2 9 AM Text Study	3 9 AM Text Study	4
5 9 AM Worship Service	6	7	8 3:45 PM Children's Classes	9 9 AM Text Study 6 PM WELCA Bible Study	10 9 AM Text Study	11
12 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Breakfast	13	14	15 9 AM Quilting 3:45 PM Children's Classes	16 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 9 AM Text Study	17	18
19 9 AM Worship Service	20	21	22	23 9 AM Text Study	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 4 PM	25
26 9 AM Worship Service	27	28	29	30 9 AM Text Study	31	

December Birthdays

9 th	Cheri Biedermann	15 th	Samantha Thompson
10 th	Mary Sutor	17 th	Ginger Eade
10 th	Michael Kriek		

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Food pantry items needed for the month of include: Storage items including Ziploc bags, wax paper, aluminum foil, kitchen size plastic garbage bags, disposable kitchen storage containers. Please place your items in the appropriate containers in the cloak room.</p>						1
2 9 AM Worship Service	3	4	8 3:45 PM Children's Classes	6 9 AM Text Study	7	8
9 9 AM Worship Service Fellowship Brunch	10	11	12 3:45 PM Children's Classes	13 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 6 PM WELCA 9 AM Text Study	14	15
16 9 AM Worship Service	17	18	19 9 AM Quilting 3:45 PM Children's Classes	20 9 AM Text Study	21	22
23 9 AM Worship Service	24	25	26 3:45 PM Children's Classes	27 9 AM Text Study	28	29
30 9 AM Worship Service	31					

January Birthdays:

2 nd	Terrie Beier	25 th	Amanda Farrow
18 th	Marney Mann	27 th	Barb Cashman
25 th	Jan Lundin		