

Newsletter January 2024

Grace Lutheran Church

121 West Kelley Street
DeSoto MO 63020

News From the Elders:

Welcome to a new year filled with the grace, mercy, and peace from God our Heavenly Father. 2023 was a wonderful and challenging year for our little church. Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Pastor Henrickson after years of faithful service to our church. Currently, Pastor Henrickson is providing a vacancy role at Concordia Lutheran Church in Greenwood Indiana.

Now, we begin a new chapter working with St. Matthews to call a pastor. With that, we would like to thank everyone who filled out the pastor survey and Pastor Kyle Castens (Circuit Visitor) for helping us through the call process and finding us vacancy Pastor Tim Weiser. President Dr. R. Lee Hagan, of the Missouri district, will now utilize our survey results to generate a list of pastoral candidates. The call committee, which is your list of elders, will keep you updated on the process.

Additionally, we would like to encourage everyone to join us for adult bible study every Sunday morning from 9:30-10:30. We have an exciting list of topics including handouts regarding law and gospel, faith, and Luther's Catholic Reformation. After that we plan to explore the book of Mark!

Finally, we would like to remind everyone to make sure your contact information is up to date. As we enter into the winter season, we will be reaching out by your preferred method (e.g., email, text, or phone) to let you know if we will need to cancel service due to inclement weather. Also, remember each member has an elder assigned to

them to help with any questions, prayer requests, or concerns you may have.

In conclusion, we are really excited about the new year and what it holds for our little church. We ask that you please pray for our church, members, and leaders to faithfully serve our gracious and loving God.

Board of Elder Contact Information

Mike Nephew (Head Elder)-(636)232-8539
Steve Alexander-(636)535-7252
Neil Schaeffer-(636)944-3248
Brian Alexander-(314)591-1812

Church Council Members 2024:

President: Steve Alexander
Vice-President: Mike Nephew
Treasurer: Sherri Schaeffer
Financial Secretary: Paula Eno
Secretary: Colissa Alexander
Trustees: Haley Alexander & Steve Alexander

Altar Guild & Cleaning:

If you are interested in serving on the Altar guild and/or helping with cleaning the church and education building please contact Starr Carroll (314)807-8682

Sunday School Corner-

We currently have Sunday School available for children ages 2-adult. Our Children's Sunday School class is taught in a one-room schoolhouse style until we have more teachers and students attending. If you would like to help by teaching a Sunday School class, please speak to Colissa Alexander, Hunter Eno or any Elder.

Upcoming dates to save:

February 14 - **Ash Wednesday** Service at 7pm

Wednesday Evening Lenten Services will be announced soon....stay tuned!

January Birthdays:

2 - Kirstin Alexander
9 - Mike Nephew
10-Steve Alexander
14-Lula Ziegler
26 - Starr Carroll

February Birthdays:

12-Shyann Moses
28-Caleb Alexander



January & February Anniversaries:

26 - Mike & Starr Carroll

**What is "The Epiphany of Our Lord"?**

The word "epiphany" (pronounced ee-PIF-uh-nee) comes from the Greek word meaning "manifestation." Jesus was made known to all people simply by being born. If we had been alive back then, we could have actually reached out and touched Jesus! He was real, and the evidence was in His birth!

Why do we celebrate Epiphany?

Epiphany is the third part of the Christmas season. During this special season in the Church Year, we remember the visit of the Wise Men. Traditionally, this visit is celebrated on Jan. 6. Epiphany also brings to mind many other important events in Jesus' life. For example, we remember Jesus' Baptism, the star that guided the Wise Men, and most importantly, His birth! Wow! There sure is a lot happening after Christmas!

**CONTACT INFORMATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Website: glcdesoto.org

Email: gracelutheranchurchdesoto@gmail.com

Grace Secretary email: secretary@glcdesoto.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/gracelutherchurchdesoto

X (Twitter): [@glcdesoto.org](https://twitter.com/glcdesoto.org)

Please like, follow and share posts to help spread the word about our little church