



Proclaiming Jesus, the Living Water

## Lake George Lutheran Chapel

December 2020 Newsletter



Your  
Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

There is a relevant Bible account about what happened leading up to Elijah being taken up to heaven. Elisha had been called by God to follow in Elijah's footsteps.

**So he (Elijah) departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. (1 Kings 19:19)**

Elijah prepared Elisha to continue his work right up until the day when the Lord would take Elijah to heaven. This is what happened that day at Bethel.

**So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." (2 Kings 2:3)**

This would happen a second time at Jericho.

**The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." (2 Kings 2:5)**

Elijah continued to prepare Elisha to step into his role as the prophet when Elijah would depart.

**When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." (2 Kings 2:9)**

That is exactly what happened when Elijah was whisked away by a whirlwind. God gave Elisha a double portion of Elijah's spirit to continue the prophet's work of declaring a loving and merciful God.

I make no claim to being anything like Elijah, but this same kind of event is happening here at Lake George. I have indicated that I am retiring, and some may not want to talk about it. But as I retire, God is providing another Pastor to proclaim the same message of sin and forgiveness, death and resurrection. Rev. John Schoedel is that Pastor. I have known him for a little more than 5 years. He is no stranger to



Rev. John Schoedel and his wife, Mary Ann, on his ordination day at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Lake George and to northeast Indiana. His father, Rev. Walt Schoedel, was the Pastor at

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. His father also spent summers at his wife's lake home near the Lake James Chapel. Rev. Schoedel was the director of the Lutheran Men Of Song when they were at Lake George two years ago. He has been working at Concordia High School for the past ten years in the development area. His wife is the administrative assistant at Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church. As you can see, he has strong ties to northeast Indiana and already knows some things about life at the lake.

Here is where the Elijah/Elisha event applies. God has poured out his Spirit on Rev. Schoedel at his baptism, and has given him another outpouring at his recent ordination. He has the same Spirit God poured out on me at my baptism and ordination. He will be more than capable to fill the vacancy as I retire.

It is knowing that God has provided my replacement that makes my retirement a bit easier. It is difficult to leave behind dear friends whom I have gotten to know and love. This is now the fourth church I have served, and the fourth time I have transitioned to a new stage in my life. I have been truly blessed to serve as your Pastor. You have demonstrated great love toward Joyce and me. You have opened your homes and your boats, for our enjoyment. This has been a great way to finish and complete my work as a shepherd of the flock.

I share with you the words of the song we have shared on Labor Day weekend as we concluded our summer months of worship.

**God be with you till we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you;  
God be with your till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.**

Although we may show up occasionally, we will not be worshiping with you each week as in the past five years. So as Joyce and I move to the next stage in our lives, we pray that God will be with you till we meet again!

Pastor Easterday

## ***Online Giving***

We now offer online giving for those who wish to support ministry at LGLC but are unable to attend worship services. There is a "Donate" button on the right side of the home page just below the church picture. Click on that and follow instructions to make a donation. We will also continue to receive offerings by mail and at the church when we are once again together in worship. Thanks for your ongoing support.

## ***Worship Schedule/December***

December 6      2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday In Advent  
God offers a promise of comfort through the Prophet Isaiah, and then promises the coming of John the Baptist. John came to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus. (Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1;1-8)

December 13      3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Advent  
The Prophet Isaiah spoke of the one who would bring good news to the poor and provide great comfort to many others in need. The Prophet proclaimed the upcoming work of Jesus, whose sandal John the Baptist would later proclaim he was not worthy to untie. (Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28)

December 20      Christmas Celebrated  
The people walking in darkness have seen a great light, and that Light is Jesus! The shepherds saw the light that night first with the angel, and then with the multitude of the heavenly host. We also see that Light shining in our darkness as we worship. (Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14)

December 27      New Year's Eve Celebrated  
God continues in his great mercy to give us another New Year, 2021. As we worship this last time this year, we are reminded that although the years pass, God is from everlasting to everlasting. (Psalm 90:1-12, Romans 8:31b-39, Luke 12:35-40)



# WORSHIP ANEW

**December 6, 2020 – Second Sunday in Advent**

**Psalm 85:1-7; 2 Peter 3:3, 5, 7-13; Mark 1:1-8**

**“Judgment Day Truths” - Sermon Text: 2 Peter 3:3, 5, 7-13 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

On Judgment Day God will destroy the universe with fire. That truth reveals other truths about God. All these truths give us believers great encouragement. We joyfully live for the Lord now and look forward to the Last Day.

**December 13, 2020 – Third Sunday in Advent**

**Psalm 126; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28**

**“Giving Up for Advent” - Sermon Text: John 1:23 - Rev. Thomas Eggold**

Jesus came to be the Way for those who were lost; and Jesus came to be the Truth for those who were confused; and Jesus came to be the Life for those who were dead. Jesus Christ came to save us sinners, to create new hearts, to cleanse consciences, and to change our lives. That is what God’s Son does with repentant heart...and that is why Advent message matters!

**December 20, 2020 – Fourth Sunday in Advent \*The Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Day Observed**

**Psalm 98; Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20**

**“The Usual Christmas?” - Sermon Text: Luke 2:11 - Rev. Shayne Jonker**

If we look into the manger and gush over the image of a sweet and pure child, but see no cross, we miss the whole point. If we forget that this precious child came to shed His

precious blood for sin, then why are we even celebrating him anyway? For this is the perfect and spotless Lamb of God, appointed for sacrifice, to take away the sins of the world. This doesn't happen every day, but it did happen on Christmas and Good Friday.

**December 27, 2020 – First Sunday after Christmas**

**Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40**

**“We Are Family” - Sermon Text: Galatians 4:4-7 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker**

The birth of a child is a special event for the entire family. The birth of our Savior was a special event that changed each person’s future. As a child and an heir, we have an eternal inheritance.

## ***Birthdays- December/January***

Mike Saalfrank	12-08
Todd Scherer	12-16
Jeff Smith	12-29
*Sharon Springer	01-03
Margie Beebe	01-14
Sidney Hoover	01-16
Steve Bacon	01-16
Jennifer Hull	01-20

## ***Baptismal Birthdays***

Mike Saalfrank	01-12
Shannah Messmann	01-29

## ***Anniversaries***

Robin & Jim Bertram	12-30
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## ***Homebound Members***

Remember our shut-ins with cards of encouragement!

Earnie Pfeiffer  
527 Harbaugh Drive  
Coldwater, MI 49036

Todd Scherer  
12701 Grand Station Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46814

Jeff Smith  
2935 N 400 W  
Angola, IN 46703

Jerry Threlkeld  
23005 Woodburn Road Apt. 131  
Woodburn, IN 46797