



# This is Family; This is Church

#### A Message from Angela Steinbacher

One of my favorite musical renditions of the Nativity story which I have listened to since I was a child ("*Child of the Promise*" by Norman Miller) has a ballad in which the shepherds lament, "Nothing ever happens to a shepherd....of our fate few people care. Sometimes I wonder if God knows we exist; If he does, I'm certain he's forgotten where." This ballad is quickly followed by the host of Angels announcing that Jesus was born. Later, the trained astronomers, the "wise men" enter desiring to worship the newborn King saying, "We bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh as an offering. All that we want is to gaze on His face."

As I was pondering Jesus' birth this Christmas season, I marveled that God chose both humble shepherds and sophisticated magi to seek and worship the Christ child. From the very beginning, God has been declaring to us and showing us that he is for all people with no regard for race, class, educational background, etc. The shepherds and magi remind me of my Foundation family and my community at CISS which I both hold close to my heart. Although the children at the Foundation, orphaned as infants, were seemingly unimportant to society, God has always held them tightly in his care.

My current students remind me of the magi. They are sophisticated and privileged seekers of knowledge. I believe God holds them tenderly in His hands, but it may be a long journey of seeking before my students understand that in their pursuit of academic purpose they have been searching for truth in Jesus all this time. As one student wrote, "I think there might be some higher being responsible for a lot of things on Earth. I don't know who that may be, and I think it may take time for me to search or look for it.."

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#### WORSHIP

Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00/9:30/11:00 am

BIBLE CLASS/SUN. SCHOOL Sunday 9:30 to 10:15 am

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Editor: Mrs. Vickie Adams vadams@zionharvester.org Mondays by 4 pm

JANUARY 15/16, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY



No matter our 'positions' in life, I believe that God wants all men to believe in this truth of the Christ-child born for us. We have just finished our first semester at CISS. I thank God each day for the privilege to be involved with His work at CISS. My students, a majority who claim to be agnostic, are spiritually depraved and are hungry for God's truth and the purpose that life as a child of God gives us. The best part about the structure of my courses is that it gives me a chance to grow relationally with the students. We talk about both spiritual and personal topics, topics that many students say they only have the chance to consider in our class. I pray that through our time together my students are able to see that I care about them....I pray someday they will know that I care because God cares for them more than we can imagine!

Angela teaches at Concordia International School in Shanghai.

When she is able to visit the states, she'll have photos to share!

#### "Taking Social Justice Captive to Christ" - Sundays at 9:30

Join Pastor Fieberkorn as we sort through modern notions of social justice, undoubtedly THE hottest topic in society, and perhaps even our churches, today.



Check our website to view Pastor Fieberkorn's recorded lessons.

# **Weekly Bible Studies and Prayer Groups**

#### ACTS Bible Study—Studying the lectionary Senior Adults Tuesdays at 9:30 am Fellowship Hall texts for the following Sunday **Book of Acts** All adults Flexible times and dates Contact Bob and Delores Desemone Higher Ed—"Taking Social Justice Captive to All adults Sundays at 9:30 am Fellowship Hall Christ" Women's Bible Study All women Wednesdays 9:00 am/1:00 pm Family Life Center Jonah and Mark: God's Ambassadors Thursdays 7:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays Men's Bible Study Family Life Center Contact person: Don Hugo All men 7:30-9:00 am Moms in Prayer All moms—contact person Wednesdays 8-9 am Chapel/Church Becca McBroom Library

#### **Lutherans for Life**

### **NEW! Life Sunday**

"God Chose You" is Lutherans For Life's theme for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is set for January 23, 2022.

Our Life Sunday 2022 theme is based on John 15:16 – "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit." (ESV)

Did you know that there are resources to assist with adoption?

Visit lutheransforlife.org for other resources like these.



#### **Lutheran High News**

636-928-5100 | <u>lutheranhighstcharles.com</u> | 5100 Mexico Road

- LHS Student Services is partnering with Resource One Advisors at 6:30 PM on February 15 to
  provide a night of education surrounding things your family can be doing now to get the most out
  of your funds for the sake of your student's college expenses. Whether you have a baby on the
  way, elementary, middle or high school student, this night is for you! Please register at <a href="https://forms.gle/3TUVDBULXxrXLo">https://forms.gle/3TUVDBULXxrXLo</a>
- Enrollment for 2022 is Now Open! Visit <a href="www.lutheranhighstcharles.com/admissions/apply-now/">www.lutheranhighstcharles.com/admissions/apply-now/</a> to enroll; contact Micah Braddy, Director of Enrollment, if you have any questions or to schedule a visit.
- Winter activities, clubs, athletics are in full swing stay aware and up to date via the Calendar tab on the front page of the LHS website
- •The LHS Sapphires Dance Team is hosting a Daddy Daughter Dance for all ages on Friday, January 28, from 6:00 8:00. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.sites.google.com/view/daddydaughter">www.sites.google.com/view/daddydaughter</a>

#### Sausage Supper CARRYOUT STYLE - Sunday, February 20

Join us as we get back to one of Zion's annual traditions CARRYOUT STYLE. Enjoy our delicious smoked sausage dinner TO GO this year. In addition, we are taking sausage orders. You can order bulk, link, link-smoked, a ½ slabs of ribs and backbones all being sold at \$4 per lb. Please call the office at 636-441-7425 ext. 246 or email Matt Groeteke at mgroeteke@yahoo.com.

# **Girlfriend Gathering**

"Pray More, Worry Less..." Philippians 4:6-7

Our Keynote Speaker is Sarah Salzberg, pictured below, a Zion and LHS Alumna and current Old Testament teacher at Orange Lutheran High School in Orange County, California and previous Youth Gathering speaker.

Sarah will help us apply God's teaching about worry to our daily lives.

Solomon says, "There's nothing new under the sun", but we seem to find new things to worry about each day. We know that He's got the whole world in His hands, but we seem to put the whole world on our shoulders. Not only does God have the whole world, but He loved it by sending His Son. From that perspective, we've got nothing to worry about!

Watch for registration details beginning January 30!





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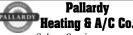
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