THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Saturday, January 6, 2024, 5:30pm Sunday, January 7, 2024, 8:00am



As We Gather

The Twelve Days of our Christmas celebration have come to an end. But the miraculous birth of the Son of God is only the beginning of the story. For though Jesus came as the fulfillment of all the promises to God's chosen people Israel, the promise to Abraham was clear that by his seed "all the families of the earth" would be blessed (Genesis 12:3). This is the mystery Paul speaks of in Ephesians 3, how "the Gentiles are fellow heirs . . . of the promise in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 3:6). Anything hidden remains a mystery until it is revealed. No one, Jew or Gentile, can come to faith in Christ without the Gospel being revealed. Another word for "reveal" is "epiphany." So today Matthew uses the word "behold," showing what may seem a surprise to some. "Behold, wise men from the east" (Matthew 2:1). "Behold, the star that they had seen" (Matthew 2:9). Today we say, behold, Christmas is a much bigger thing than many have thought. It encompasses nothing less than all our Lord's earthly ministry culminating in His suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit. It is nothing less than the gift of salvation to all who believe. This epiphany has invaded your darkness through the water and the Word of your Holy Baptism, through the Word of God preached in your hearing, and through the receiving of our Lord's very body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar to sustain that gift, that epiphany of faith to the end of days. By faith you have made a very good beginning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

"What Child Is This" **GATHERING HYMN, LSB 370** 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with While an - thems sweet feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin here The ners Him. The King kings sal - va tion brings; Let own of herds watch keep - ing? This, this shep are is Word plead - ing. shall si lent is Nails. spear lov ing hearts en throne Him. Raise, raise the the king, Whom shep - herds guard an - gels sing; Christ and pierce Him through, The borne for for you; cross be me, song on high. The vir gin sings her lul - la - by: Him laud. The babe, the Haste, haste to bring of Mar-y! son made flesh, The babe, the Hail. hail the Word son of Mar-y! for Christ is born, The babe, the of Mar-y! Joy, joy, son Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98 | Tune: English, 16th cent. | Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +↓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

KYRIE

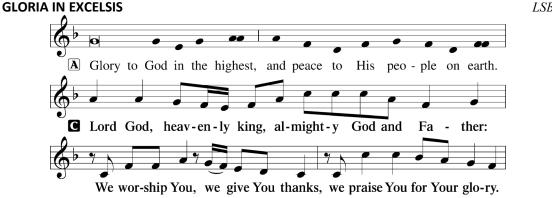
- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.



LSB 152

LSB 154



SALUTATION

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING, Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they

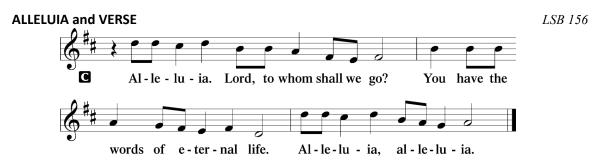
come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING, Ephesians 3:1-12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



HOLY GOSPEL, Matthew 2:1-12

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter:
- Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. [**P**] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN, LSB 397 "As with Gladness Men of Old" 1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold; 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to Thy low - ly bed, 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare At Thy cra - dle, rude and bare, Je - sus, ev - 'ry 4 Ho - lv day Keep us in the nar-row way; 5 In the heav'n-ly coun - try bright Need they no cre - at - ed light; As with joy they hailed its light, Lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright; bend the knee be - fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore: There to may we with ho - ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al - lov. So And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down; most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led by Thee. So, So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat. our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King. All Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide. we sing Al - le - lu - ias There for - ev - er may to our King. Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt. | Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872 | Text and tune: Public domain

"Wisdom and Worship"

Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford

President of the Minnesota South District of the LC-MS

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

This is a time that we, as a church family return a portion of the financial blessings God has given us. If you are our guests today, please do not feel obligated to participate. We have many ways to give your tithe or offering. You may place your offering in the plate when it is passed, mail it to the church, text to give by texting 84321 with any dollar amount (be sure to select "South Shore"), give online at sstwbl.org/give, or use the Church Center App from your smartphone (available for both Android and iOS). Disciples of Jesus at SST, please fill out an ivory SST Registration card and place in the offering plate.

Guests: If you would like more information regarding South Shore Trinity, please fill out a blue Guest Registration card before and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher before leaving.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

■ Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God enthroned forever, You love righteousness and hate wickedness. For our sakes, You sent Your only begotten Son to suffer the wages of our sin, that we might be holy in Your sight. As You have poured grace and salvation upon us, so anoint us also with the oil of gladness and the hope of everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Holy God, eternal Light, You made Paul a minister according to the gift of Your grace. Embolden our pastors to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. Open our ears to hear and our hearts to believe their message that the King of kings has given His life for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, You prepared a place for Your Son, Jesus, in the womb of the Virgin Mary and in the home of Mary and Joseph. Bless our homes and all who dwell in them, that Your Word would be heard and Your mercy be shown therein. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

O Lord, bring an end to all threats of violence. Raise up leaders who will act with integrity, pursue justice and follow Your commands. Grant to all people the blessings of food, shelter, medical care and safety, and sustain those whose duty it is to protect and defend. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Give to the afflicted Your comforting presence, relief in their suffering and healing according to Your will. Sustain Your servants who trust in You especially ... Give hope to the weary and peace to the dying. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

I Lord God, You brought the Magi of old to worship Your Son, Jesus, and so You have brought us to worship Him also. Receive our gifts and give us Christ in His body and blood, that we may return home according to Your holy way. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

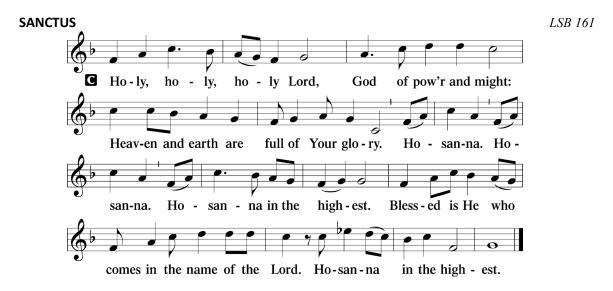
- P Heavenly Father, You have anointed Your Son to be our Savior and have established His throne forever and ever. Grant that we who are called by His name would see His reign spread among all nations; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

PREFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them up unto the Lord.

LSB 160

- **P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- **C** It is meet and right so to do.
- It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, because You have called us through the waters of Holy Baptism and welcomed us to Your Table of grace. As we rejoice in the salvation won for us by our Savior, strengthen us to heed always the call to share the Gospel message in our times and days with the generations yet to come that Your praise may echo until the end of time and the start of eternity. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore praising you and saying:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

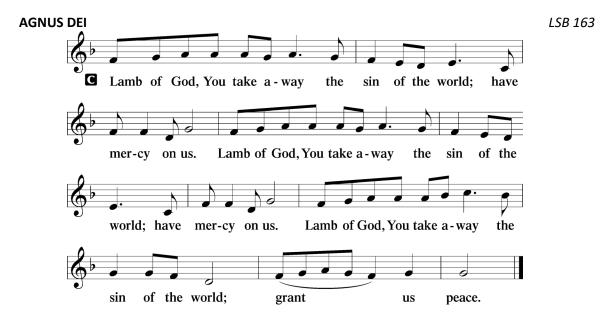
LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

LSB 400, "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" LSB 395, "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

GROWING IN THE WORD

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Psalm 90:1

BENEDICTION

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- C Amen.



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt. | Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 | Text and tune: Public domain

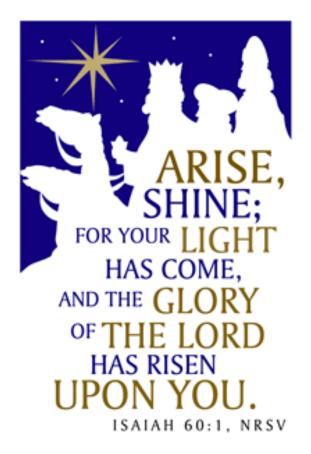
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THANK YOU and WELCOME

We welcome Minnesota South District President, Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford to SST this weekend. He will be preaching at all three services.

President Woodford will also be leading a presentation during the Bible Study hour at 9:30am on Sunday. During this time, we will hear the options and potential ways forward, once Pastor Bob's retirement has taken place. All Disciples of Jesus at South Shore are encouraged to attend, either in person, or via Zoom.



TRINITY TIDINGS for 1/7/23

The Flowers at the Altar today are given to the glory of God by Muriel and Andy Janneke in honor of Muriel's birthday and in thankfulness for God's grace and the joy and hope we have in Jesus, our Savior.

District President Lucas Woodford will be here this weekend. He will preach at all 3 services and will lead the Bible class time at 9:30am. This meeting will be available via Zoom (a link will be sent via email) and as a recording. He will be sharing the options SST will have upon Pastor Gehrke's retirement.

The next **Discover SST** classes are scheduled. For more information speak to Pastor Dan.

- Tuesday, January 9, 6:00-8:00pm (childcare available) Lutheranism 101 (part 1)
- Tuesday, January 16, 6:00-8:00pm (childcare available) Lutheranism 101 (part 2)
- Saturday, January 20, 9:30am-2:00pm (lunch and childcare provided) New Disciple Luncheon

The next **Blood Drive** at South Shore will be in January 9. If you are interested in donating blood you can go to the Red Cross website and sign up for donating blood. If you have questions about donating blood, you can contact Terry Borkenhagen at 651-302-8485.

Lunch With Jerry will be Wednesday at 11:30. It is free but a free-will donation will be accepted with matching funds from Thrivent and the money will go toward the White Bear Food Bank.

Our annual **Soup & Chili Cookoff** (with Desserts) will be on Sunday, February 4 from Noon to 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. See the January Newsletter for more information.

Trinity Guild: The signup sheet for attending the workshop and carpooling will be coming soon on the Guild bulletin board. Questions, contact Muriel at 612-709-2985. See January Newsletter article.

Sermon Series beginning January 13/14 – "Joining Jesus as a Family." See the January Newsletter for more details.

The **Quarterly Voters Meeting** will be Monday, January 22 at 7pm in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.

Invite Cards -- Have you ever wished you could simply hand out an information card to friends or acquaintances about our church? The Board of Outreach would like to encourage everyone to take several of the new "Invite Cards" and keep them handy for when those opportunities arise. They are on the cabinet by the office and elsewhere around the building.

SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Bob Gehrke Associate Pastor, Rev. Dan Bodin Acolytes: 8:00 Liliana Peterson | 10:45 Will Vette Anna Altar: Barb Olund & Reenie Blanchard Coffee: Gary and Reenie Blanchard Counters: Marilyn Erickson & Corrine Erickson Greeters: 5:30 Sue Dittmann | 8:00 Sharon Calhoun Readers: 8:00 Ruby Moskop | 10:45 Don Benson Organist/Pianist: 5:30 & 8:00 Dr Jeff Burkart Live Stream Tech: 8:00 Jennifer Jewel | 10:45 Chris Hesselbach AV Tech: 5:30 Ron Wenzel | 8:00 Dan Wille | 10:45 Kevin Froelich Ushers: 5:30 Bob Dybdal | 8:00 George Gifford & Ross Hoernemann | 10:45 Cory Pederson

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

(Please include the follow people in your prayers)

Those celebrating a birthday: 1/9 – Pamela Franzmeier, 1/10 – Katia McWilliams, 1/11 – Janel Manos, Luke Nalipinski, Brady Nalipinski, 1/14 – Roger Chamberlain, Elise Whitehurst (incorrect date on prayer calendar)

Those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries: Marlene Carlson, Julie Deeg, Cathy Guerrero, Louis Hass, Linda Kunze, Deb Manley, Barb Peltier and Karolina Peterson (exact date unknown). 1/1 – Jayne Kurpius, 1/8 – Kevin Froelich, 1/10 – Liliana Peterson

Those celebrating a wedding anniversary: None this week.

ON THE CALENDAR

Sunday, January 7

9:30am

President Woodford [S & Zoom] SST's Time of Transition

Monday, January 8

6:30-8:00pm Scouts

Tuesday, January 9

11-7:00pm	Red Cross Blood Drive [B22]
6:00pm	Lutheranism 101 [F8]
6:30-8:30pm	Women's AA (upstairs)

Wednesday, January 10

9:30am	Women's Bible Study [B9A]
11:30am	Lunch with Jerry
11:30am	Piano Duets [S]
5:45pm	Fellowship Meal [B2]
6:30-7:00pm	Foundry (K-5 th)
6:30-8:00pm	Forge (6-12 th) Confirmation
	No Chancel Choir in January

Thursday, January 11

9:30-11:30am	Women's Bible Study [upstairs]
9:30-11:30am	[B9A] In Use
1:00pm	Prayer Shawl [F8]
6:00pm	Vesper Bells [S]

Saturday, January 13

10-12pm	MOPs/MomsNEXT [F8]
11:00-Noon	Al-Anon [2-5]
5:30pm	Worship with Communion

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Yellow "Prayer Request" cards are available in the pew rack.
- Please use this Prayer Guide in the coming week to pray for the following people and situations.
- Those who are listed in italics are not disciples at SST.

God's healing: Debbie Dahl, Dick Wicklund, Eileen Spreeman, Herb Frederick, *Karen Nelson*, Danna Anderson, Margaret Ribble, Paulette Genz, *Mark Benson*, Elizabeth Iverson, Marian Meier, Tim Lundgren, *Martha Burkart*, Melody Sweet, *Wayne Leverkuhn*, Lin Carlson, Carol Gerlach, Elaine Frahm, Betty Frohrib, Grace Bodin, *Brett Swenson*, Bonnie Moyer, *Carol Borgstrom*, Sharen McKelvey, *Noah Boleen*, Celeste Gifford, Tom Meredith, *Jo Biebighauser*

God's Peace: To all people and especially to nations at war

Those with on-going health issues: *Verna Benson,* Mary Kuruvilla, Jim and Meredith Reinholdt, the children of Rick and Lin Carlson

God's comfort, peace and healing for those with cancer:

Jim Baldwin, Carol Borgstrom, Jack Frahm, Tammy Gimpl, Michelle Krug, Jill Larson, Patti Molkenbur, Bill Niebergall, Pastor Norb Streufert, Lana Albrecht, Rick and Lin Carlson, Joanne Grace, Faye Hansen, SST's Letter Carrier

Protection of our Armed Forces and their families:

Peter Gifford, Megan Lisowy, Aaron Meissen, Dan Mettling, Brodey Perron, Scott Polack, Andrew Reed, Jim Schumann, Dalton Wenzel, Dylan Wenzel, Brandon Boleen, Teddy Boleen, Wyatt Kassa

Missions and missionaries:

Rev. Dr. Fung and Kalia missionary family to SE Asia in Thailand | *Pastor Stephen Heimer and Vicar Alex Escarciga at Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, Texas* |SST Preschool, reaching our community | MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers)

Federal, State and local government and all those in positions of authority

