



"The Little Lutheran"

Greenford Lutheran Church

PO Box 104 • 7450 W South Range Rd • Greenford, OH 44422

www.greenfordlutheran.org • (330)533-5324



Our mission is to "Know Christ and Make Christ Known"



At the start of every year one invariably sees lists of the TOP 10 or TOP 100 of the previous year regarding this, that, or the other. Perhaps it was the top selling books, the top 100 country artists, the top 10 most popular toys, or top 10 most popular tweets. As you glance down through the list you might resonate with some of the artists, songs, books, movies, or tweets that made the list. Perhaps you see some that you wonder, "who would care enough to add them to the list?" You might totally disagree with others or honestly have no clue who or what that entry is!

In general I find these lists fun to glance through. They give me a sense of what was going on during the year within our media, music, and culture. It's informative to see what other people value or pay attention to and compare that to the things I pay attention to or value. As a Christian I'm always amazed at how many folks lavish attention on trivial matters and pay no attention to matters of eternal significance, like their soul. So I was glad to see a Top 100 Bible passages put together by Biblegateway.com (*I've included their top 25 on the newsletter insert*). However, it was discomfoting to see an accompanying list by Barna Research about how often people read the Bible today compared to just a few years ago. It's scary! (*see newsletter insert*)

God's Word is something we should pay attention to and value every year, every day. But how many of us have God's Word on our phones as an APP to spend time with when we've got down time? Instead we have our favorite games or social media to scroll through during our "free time." I know I think of those down times as "me time." But what if we were to share a little of our me time with what I call "Thee Time"?

This past year I've been doing that and I've found myself blessed. Not because life has been easy: My dad died unexpectedly in Feb., Deb's mom's health is failing, COVID has hit our extended family. But despite all that, the majority of the year I've felt peaceful. I attribute that to being in God's Word and daily centering myself not on social media or national news or even mindless gaming but God. That daily dose and regular diet of God's Word is what keeps me purpose filled and peace full.

If you're wondering how you might move God's Word into your Top Ten this year, it's not as hard as you think. Do you have a phone that keeps appointments and beeps, buzzes, or chimes when its time for that appointment? Consider simply setting it to go off once or twice a day just as a reminder to stop, breath in, breath out, recite your favorite bible passage (*pick one from the Top 100 list*) and then move on with your day. I have my phone set to go off at the traditional monastic "hours of the day" (6 am, 9am, 12 noon, 3 pm, 6 pm and 9 pm) just as a way to make sure I'm staying "centered." Sometimes this leads to long conversations with God but mostly it's just a moment with God. Whether its minutes with God or just a moment, it always seems to move me in the right direction. I find myself going from negative to positive, from nervous to peaceful, from narcissistic to altruistic.

Another habit I've developed is morning devotions. As an early riser that's what works for me, but I know of members who fit their devotional life into their lunch hour or bed time routine. The timing of the day isn't as important as making the time in your day. Our church provides two different devotional books free of charge. Both are designed to take as little as 2 minutes to as much as 15 minutes to read each day. Just reading the inspirational devotion for the day takes as little as two minutes. Add in reading the Bible passage its based on and/or spending time at the end in prayer can result in a very nurturing and satisfying spiritual 15 minutes. Considering all the stuff we experience in a 24 hour period that robs our joy and weakens our spirit doesn't it make sense to spend less than 1/4 of an hour of those 24 hours in "Thee Time" to offset that?

Of course our church offers very good Sunday morning Bible studies. Yet, I'm not sure folks who've never dipped their toes into the life giving water of God's Word, feel comfortable diving into the depths of God's Word in an hour long Bible Study. Maybe just encouraging people to take a baby step in the right direction of reading a little bit of the Bible consistently will lead to a journey that has lasting (eternal) consequences for the better? This year maybe your list of Top Ten priorities can include "read my bible more regularly" or "Have a little more THEE time." I'm sure God would love that and I'm sure it would result in more inner peace than moments spent on "candy crush." I'm also confident those moments of "Thee time" will provide more minutes of joy and inspiration than the "me time" spent on Twitter or Facebook.

Blessings on your new year,
Pastor Mike



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Angie Bowman
Dave Chizmar
Delaine DeChellis
Vicki Elwood
Madeline Hiner
Ann Myers
Ed Schaefer, Jr.
Evan Schaefer
Brad Scheetz

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Council Officers will be elected by the council at its first meeting of the new year.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Michael Knauff

Church Secretary
vacant

Youth Director
Matthew Crutchfield

Custodian
Fran Hall

Music Director
Martha Rogowski

Accompanist
Alyssa Titti

Church Treasurer
Shirley Martz

Financial Secretary
Dorothy Conkle

FELLOWSHIP: Delaine DeChellis, Chairperson

Ladies Group Update:

The Ladies Group received permission to use memorial funds from three families to purchase and have installed three light fixtures for the back of our sanctuary. A dedication Sunday is being planned. The Ladies Group will have a meetings immediately following the worship service on Sunday, Jan. 9 and Sunday Jan. 30. Jan 9 's agenda is **Jackie Lipp's** final meeting as president, where she'll report on results of the Madrigal Dinner and the recently purchased lighting for the narthex of the sanctuary. Jan 30 will be **Sarah Schaefer's & DeErla Schaefer's** first meeting as co-presidents making plans for events this spring and summer.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

A big word of thanks to those who hosted our fellowship hours during the busy month of December. Thank you to **George & Carrie Toy, Buffy Leining-er and Mike & Jill Clunen, Joanie Brooks,** and everyone that participated in the Dec. 26 Christmas Cook-
 ie Share! We greatly appreciate your efforts on our behalf!

We want to remind the rest of the congregation that there are many more opportunities for hosting available in January and the coming year as well. Perhaps you'd like to host the Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, or Super Bowl Weekend or Valentines' weekend fellowship time? You can find the sign up sheets on the serving table in the fellowship hall.



January Calendar Church Events



January 2	Packing up Christmas
.....	Annual Reports Due
January 6	Epiphany
January 9	Baptism of our Lord Sunday
January 11.....	7 pm council Meeting
January 16.....	
.....	Annual Reports Congregational Meeting
January 23.....	Youth Group Planning meeting
January 24.....	Ruritan Dinner
January 30.....	Women's Group Meeting



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, WHOLENESS, THANKSGIVING, AND SYMPATHY



Prayer List

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH & WHOLENESS:
Laura, Marti, Brian Bair, Carolyn Bartell, **Tom Butts, Marge**

Cope, Barb Feicht, Marian Fischer, Wayne Grieir, **Stan Fishback,** Vickie Keene, **Sue Lotti, Cindy McCue,** Emily Mead, Mark Pier, **Raquel Scheetz,** Randy Schmidt, Jason Schultz, **Ed & Suzanne Smith,** Kalani Tejedor, **Carrie Toy,** and Darin Waselich.

PRAYERS FOR LOVED ONES SERVING OUR COUNTRY: **Lane Bowman,** Kasey Shidel, **Richard Travis Toy,** and Matt Yarab



PRAYERS OF CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

- ♦ To the family and friends of Theresa Everson who died Wed. Dec. 1.
- ♦ To the family and friends of Rod Cushman who died Sun. Dec. 5.



Birthday Blessings

- | | |
|---------|-------------------|
| 3 | Carrie Toy |
| | Kathy Chizmar |
| 4..... | Jennifer Schaefer |
| 5..... | Bettie White |
| 6 | Sheri Bailey |
| | Brady Crumbacher |
| 8..... | Fran Hall |
| 9..... | Brooke Sauerwein |
| 15..... | Cindy Ericson |
| 18..... | Theodore Elwood |
| 19..... | Jim Myers |
| 20..... | Clyde Martz |
| 21..... | Scott Roller |
| | Tyler Rothbauer |
| 28..... | Alice Scheetz |
| 31..... | Olivia Scheetz |

NEW YEAR/NEW CALENDAR:

New Calendars are available in Fellowship Hall. Compliments of Stark Memorial Funeral Home in Salem. Be sure and pick up yours ASAP.

Dear GLC family,

Debbie and I would like to thank all the wonderful members of Greenford Lutheran for a blessed Christmas. You have been so generous with cards, well wishes, and most definitely monetarily! We're deeply grateful to be part of such a loving church family.

Blessings to you in the New Year!

Pastor Mike & Debbie Knauff

Thank you ❤️

Evangelism:

Vicki Elwood, Chairperson

We are all called to reach out and show the great love Christ has for all of us. There are so many ways we can show this love and kindness to others. Come join the evangelism team! We are looking for anyone that wants to help reach beyond our church walls.

What are you interested in?

-Outreach to our community and beyond

This can be anything to reach people near and far with God's Word.

-Building our online community

We are looking for team members that would like to help with the website, Facebook, and other online accounts

-Youth outreach

In the past this has included coloring contests, helping with Easter egg hunt, and youth activities having an inclusive invitation to youth in our area.

If you're interested in any of these opportunities or have ideas to share how we can further our reach, we would love for you to join us!



CHURCH COUNCIL

WE WELCOME OUR 2022 CHURCH COUNCIL. LET US CONTINUALLY LIFT THEM UP IN OUR PRAYERS, AS WELL AS OFFER OUR SPIRITUAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

*** Denotes serving a third consecutive term. According to the GLC constitution council members may only serve 3 consecutive two year terms.

Angie Bowman ('22-'23)	Dave Chizmar*** ('21-'22)	Delaine DeChellis ('21-'22)
Vicky Elwood ('22)	Madeline Hiner ('22-'23)	Ann Myers ('22-'23)
Ed Schaefer, Jr.*** ('21-'22)	Evan Schaefer** ('22-'23)	Brad Scheetz ('21-'22)

- ✦ Thank you to **Vicky Elwood** for volunteering to serve the remainder of **Carrie Toy's** council term. Thank you to **Joanie Brooks** and **Chris Kondas** for your two years of service on council. And A HUGE Thanks to **Charlotte Fishback** who completed her third two year term this past December, serving for six years on council!! "Well done good and faithful servant."
- ✦ The new council will meet Tuesday, January 11 to elect their president, vice president, and secretary as well as assign council oversight of standing committees.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

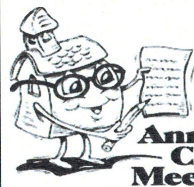
A service of installation will be held for our elected 2022 council members on **Sunday Jan. 2, 2022.**



ANNUAL REPORTS

Attention all GLC Council Members, Staff, and Special Committee leaders your Annual report is due January 2, 2022. Please don't be late! The church office needs to compile

and publish the GLC 2021 Annual Report by January 9, 2022 for the congregational annual meeting on January 16, 2022. If you're wondering if this includes you check the list below. We need 2022 annual reports from: Council members and officers, Pastor, Church Secretary, Youth Director, Music Director, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Cemetery Committee, Leslie Ann Seidner Jenkins Foundation, Men's Group, and Women's Group.



ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING:

Members are invited to come hear about the mission and ministry accomplished in 2021 by our congregation. We need a quorum of members to help approve our annual reports **Sun. Jan 16, 2022** following the worship service.

NOV. 21st CHURCH MEETING SUMMARY

A healthy attendance at our fall congregational meeting helped us easily establish a quorum. We certainly thank the many members who made the effort to be part of our church's decisions toward the future. After approving the previous congregational meeting minutes, the next item of business was the proposed 2022 Budget. The new worship service team made a presentation for the appeal for an increase in the budget of \$20,000 for availability of funds to support this new service. After discussion a motion was made to amend the budget with the additional \$20,000.00, which passed. The next item was a proposal from council to give council permission to revamp the Sunday worship times once the new worship service is ready to start. This motion also passed. The final business item was electing new council members: **Angie Bowman, Madeline Hiner and Ann Myers**, which also passed.

PASTOR OUT OF THE OFFICE:

Pastor will be on vacation January 6-11. If you have any pastoral concerns please contact a council member or Rev. Bob Quaintance, Pastor of Good Hope Lutheran, Boardman.



THANK YOU TO FAMILIES LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH:

We were so thankful and blessed to have families be a part of the lighting of the Advent Wreath during our worship and midweek services this year. Thank you to **Rita Meshula** and her granddaughter **Briona Hiner**, **The Burn's family**, and the **Scheetz family**.



PACKING UP CHRISTMAS:

The Worship and Music Committee invites you to enjoy a last hurrah of Christmas music as we pack up the Church's Christmas decorations. We'll need many hands to make light work **Sunday, January 2 following the worship service.**

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD:

The first Sunday following Epiphany (January 6) is traditionally set aside to celebrate the baptism of our Lord.. The Christian calendar goes from celebrating the birth of our savior (Dec. 25) to his having



grown and arriving at the Jordan to be baptized by John. Join us for a message on the importance of baptism and to be reminded of that important part of our faith journey by singing a favorite "*I was there to hear your borning cry.*"

2022 SIGN UPS NOW AVAILABLE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL:

We appreciate members sponsoring flowers and the eternal flame throughout the year to beautify our altar. If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers(\$40 for two weeks) or the sanctuary candle (\$5 for two weeks) for next year please check out the sign up sheets in the fellowship hall.



Also the 2022 worship volunteer sheets are available as well. If you can help support our worship by serving in one of the many volunteer positions such as usher, lector or many others (*see chart below*) please fill in the sign up sheet. As you can see with the changing of the year we've got many volunteer vacancies in January on our worship volunteer list. Not only does "Many hands make light work." but having a full compliment of helpers enables worship to go smoothly and be both God pleasing and inspirational to God's family.

January Worship Volunteers

ACOLYTE	ALTAR CARE	FELLOWSHIP HOSTS
Jan 2 <i>Needed</i>	DeErla Schaefer and Kim Best	<i>Needed</i>
Jan 9 <i>Needed</i>	LECTOR	<i>Needed</i>
Jan 16 <i>Needed</i>	<i>Needed</i>	<i>Needed</i>
Jan 23 <i>Needed</i>	USHERS	<i>Needed</i>
Jan 30 <i>Needed</i>	<i>Needed</i>	Buffy Leininger
CROSS BEARERS	A/V CREW	COMMUNION STEWARDS
Jan 2 <i>Needed</i>	<i>Needed</i>	The Toy's
Jan 16 <i>Needed</i>	OFFERING STEWARDS	COMMUNION ASSISTANT
	<i>Needed</i>	<i>Needed</i>



	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING Weekly average needed for budget \$3,625.00
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28	41	\$2,247.50
MIDWEEK ADVENT DECEMBER 1	18	\$65.00
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5	61	\$3,304.00
MIDWEEK ADVENT DECEMBER 8	20	\$75.00
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12	65	\$3,091.00
MIDWEEK ADVENT DECEMBER 15	24	\$183.00
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19	87	\$5,820.00

Stewardship:

Dave Chizmar, Chairman

JANUARY BENEVOLENCE: Samaritan's Purse

December 10, 2021 an unprecedented swarm of deadly nighttime tornadoes tore through several states, leaving a long trail of death and destruction. After watching this on the news, it's hard to imagine losing everything you have including sometimes your loved ones. As our hearts go out to the victims, we would like to support Samaritan's Purse for our benevolence in January. Their staff were on the ground less than 24 hours after the tornado, trying to assess the damage. They are working with local officials, emergency management and church partners to develop a strategic relief response in these hurting communities. Two Disaster Response Units — tractor trailer loads with equipment and supplies — are now there with another one on the way.

Please pray for emergency responders and ongoing search efforts; for the many people affected by these storms as they grieve and recover; for Samaritan Purse staff members as they assess the situation and begin to serve the hurting in Jesus' name.

HELP WANTED: OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR.

This is a part time position paying \$15/hr with flexible office hours. Must have excellent people skills and be competent in Microsoft Office programs such as Word, PowerPoint, and Publisher. This is a good position for a second income parent who wants flexibility to care for their school age children. It's also a good option for recent retirees to supplement their income while contributing to their community.



THOUGHTS ON CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

"When a man becomes a Christian, he becomes industrious, trustworthy and prosperous. Now, if that man when he gets all he can and saves all he can, does not give all he can, I have more hope for Judas Iscariot than for that man!" – John Wesley

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose."—[Missionary Jim Elliott](#)

"Abundance isn't God's provision for me to live in luxury. It's his provision for me to help others live. God entrusts me with his money not to build my kingdom on earth, but to build his kingdom in heaven." – Randy Alcorn



"The Little Lutheran"

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TREASURER REPORT NOVEMBER 2021

CURRENT FUND

Beginning Balance - \$13,941.71

Receipts:

Church/e-offering \$13,497.52

(see below)

Total Receipts: - \$444.19

(after covering overdrawn)

Expenses:

Christian Edu	\$0.00
Electric Church	\$392.32
Electric Parsonage	\$119.92
Gas Church	\$0.00
Gas Parsonage	\$0.00
Telephone Church	\$155.69
Evangelism	\$97.00
Fellowship	\$0.00
Flowers	\$22.15
Federal Tax	\$805.98
State Tax	\$57.32
Pastor Salary	\$4,818.34
Pens/House Eq'ty	\$459.48
Secretary Salary	\$0.00
Music Director	\$459.18
Sexton Salary	\$507.84
Treasurer Salary	\$254.38
Organist	\$294.16
Youth Lead Sali	\$440.90
Supply Pastor	\$0.00
Payroll Expenses	\$22.52
Office Equipment	\$0.00
Postage & Delivery	\$0.00
Equipment Lease	\$284.16
Office Supplies	\$175.96
Repairs Parsonage	\$0.00
Supplies Janitor	\$0.00
Lawn Mowing	\$200.00
Trash Hauling	\$63.00
Water System	\$0.00
Worship Supplies	\$425.06
Property Taxes	\$0.00
Bldg Insurance	\$0.00
Fees	\$0.00
Workers Comp	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$10,055.36

BALANCE CURRENT FUND - \$10,499.55

(from above)

Church receipts \$12,879.92

e-offering receipts \$617.60

Receipts \$13,497.52

BENEVOLENCE

Balance	\$1,375.00
Receipts	\$918.00
Disbursements	<u>\$1,375.00</u>
Balance	\$918.00

BUILDING FUND / BUILDING MAINT.

Balance	\$19,550.29
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$117.00</u>
Balance	\$19,433.29

RYAN LUTSCH EAGLE SCOUT FUND

Balance	\$581.98
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance	\$581.98

DISCRETIONARY FUND

Balance	\$2,350.49
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance	\$2,350.49

JR YOUTH

Balance	\$5,346.61
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$100.00</u>
Balance	\$5,246.61

MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$24,212.00
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$150.00</u>
Balance	\$24,062.00

MISSION TRIP

Balance	\$7,022.61
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance	\$7,022.61

CEMETERY

Balance	\$7,169.28
Receipts	\$55.00
Disbursements	<u>\$340.00</u>
Balance	\$6,884.28

CAMPERSHIPS

Balance	\$732.00
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance	\$732.00

VBS

Balance	\$2,588.25
Receipts	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance	\$2,588.25

LESLIE MEMORIAL

Balance	\$0.00
Receipts	\$750.00
Disbursements	<u>\$750.00</u>
Balance	\$0.00

MEN'S GROUP

Balance	\$2,310.91
Receipts	\$63.39
Disbursements	<u>\$800.00</u>
Balance	\$1,574.30

CHECKBOOK SUMMARY

Current Fund	- \$10,499.55
Accrued State & Fed	- \$319.79
Benevolence	\$918.00
Building Fund/Bldg Main	\$19,433.29
Eagle Scout Fund	\$581.98
Cemetery	\$6,884.28
Discretionary Fund	\$2,350.49
Jr Youth	\$5,246.61
Memorial Fund	\$24,062.00
Mission Trip	\$7,022.61
VBS	\$2,588.25
Men's Group	\$1,574.30
Leslie Memorial	\$0.00
Camperships	\$732.00
Uncleared Checks	\$1,571.12
Uncleared Deposits	\$0.00
Balance	\$62,145.49



Greenford Lutheran Church		Proposed Budget for 2022	
		Proposed Budget 2022	Budget 2021 (Approved 11/15/2020)
INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT			
	LCMC	\$ 1,710.00	\$ 1,710.00
	LCMC GATHERING	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
	CAMP FREDERICK	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
	Subtotal	\$ 3,810.00	\$ 3,810.00
MINISTRIES IN ACTION			
Christian Education		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	VBS	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Evangelism		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Fellowship		\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
Member Care		\$ 350.00	\$ 100.00
Stewardship		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Contemporary Service Start Up		\$ 20,000.00	
	Supplies(Communion,Candles,Music)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	Flowers (Altar/Funeral)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Youth Group		\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	Subtotal	\$ 29,700.00	\$ 10,950.00
OFFICE			
Supplies and Postage		\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
Equipment Rental/Maintenance		\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00
Licenses/Permits		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
	Subtotal	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 8,900.00
PERSONNEL/STAFFING			
Pastor Salary		\$ 54,250.00	\$ 54,250.00
	Taxable Health Stipend	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
	Continueing Education	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
	Pension/Housing Equity	\$ 6,040.00	\$ 6,040.00
	Supply Pastors	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	Secretary	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00
	Youth Director	\$ 5,280.00	\$ 6,240.00
	Custodian	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00
	Music Director	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
	Treasurer	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
	Worship Accompanist	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 4,160.00
	Workers Compensation	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	Payroll Expenses	\$ 320.00	\$ 320.00
	Subtotal	\$ 112,040.00	\$ 111,960.00
3			



PROPERTY	Proposed Budget 2022	Budget 2021
Church Utilities (Gas, Electric)	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00
Church Telephone/Internet	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,000.00
Church Building Repairs	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Equipment Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Lawn Care	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,700.00
Trash Service	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Custodial Supplies	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
Water System	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Parsonage Utilities (Gas, Electric)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Parsonage Repairs	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Van Insurance and Repairs	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Property Insurance	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 5,300.00
Property Taxes	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,800.00
Subtotal	\$ 34,550.00	\$ 36,650.00
Total Proposed Expenses for 2021	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 172,270.00
	Total Budget Approved	Total Budget Approved
	11/21/2021	11/15/2020

Property:
Brad Scheetz Chairman

Installed three light fixtures in vestibule, cry room and coat room for Ladies Group. Furnace repairs were made at the Parsonage by McCowin Heating and Cooling. Replaced outdoor receptacle on west side of building with GFCI and new weather proof cover for outdoor lights at Madrigal Dinner.

Christian Education:

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT THANK YOU: We'd like to say a word of thanks to all the parents and volunteers that helped make our Sunday, December 19 pageant a wonderful worship event. The time to prepare was short and we had to hurriedly prepare costumes, practice entrances and exits so everybody's cooperation was essential and we got that cooperation!! Thanks to **Josh Burns** for being our narrator, **Angie Bowman, Erin Burns, and Kim Moenich** for being "stage moms," Of course a big thanks to all the youth and kids who were so cute and cooperative!

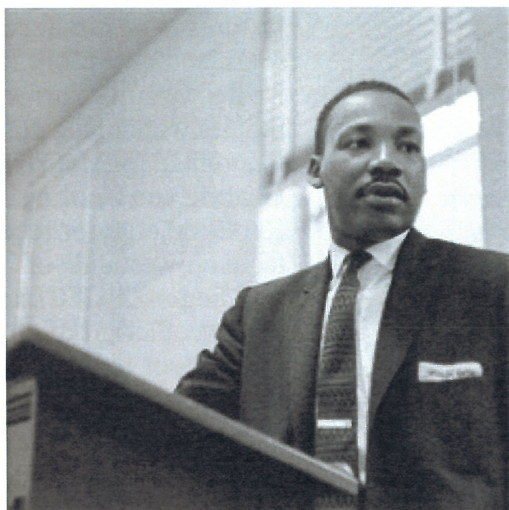
We will be continuing to offer Christian Education for the next generation (Preschool age – to 5th grade) each Sunday morning at 9:15 am in the New Year! We'd love to have the vibrant full attendance we had for the pageant, to continue into the New Year.





The story of how Michael King Jr. became Martin Luther King Jr.

By DeNeen L. Brown



Martin Luther King Jr. was born 90 years ago, on Jan. 15, 1929. But the name on his original birth certificate — filed April 12, 1934, five years after King was born — was not Martin.

Nor was it Luther. In fact, for the first years of his life, he was Michael King. And it wasn't until he was 28 that, on July 23, 1957, his birth certificate was revised. The name Michael was crossed out, next to which someone printed carefully in black ink: "Martin Luther, Jr."

The story of how Michael became Martin began in 1934 when King's father, who then was known as the Rev. Michael King or M.L. King, was senior pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church and a prominent minister in Atlanta. In the summer of 1934, King's church sent him on a whirlwind trip. He traveled to Rome, Tunisia, Egypt, Jerusalem and Bethlehem before setting sail to Berlin, where he would attend a Baptist World Alliance meeting, according to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University.

The trip to Germany, historians say, had a profound effect on the elder King. King arrived in Berlin a year after Adolf Hitler became chancellor. During his trip, the senior King toured the country where, in 1517, the German monk and theologian Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg castle church, challenging the Catholic Church. The act would lead to the Protestant Reformation, the revolution that would split Western Christianity.

All around him in Berlin, King Sr. was seeing the rise of Nazi Germany. The Baptist alliance responded to that hatred with a resolution deploring "all racial animosity, and every form of oppression or unfair discrimination toward the Jews, toward coloured people, or toward subject races in any part of the world."

When the senior King returned home in August 1934, he was a different man, said Clayborne Carson, director of the King Institute. It was sometime in this year that he changed his name and changed his son's name, too.

"It was a big deal for him to go there, to the birthplace of Protestantism," said Carson, who edited "The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.," which was compiled and written after King's assassination. "That probably implanted the idea of changing his name to Martin Luther King."

The act was almost biblical. "Jacob became Israel, Saul of Tarsus became Paul, Simon became Peter," Taylor Branch wrote in "Parting the Waters: America in the King Years 1954-63." "For Mike King, who had come to Atlanta smelling like a mule, the switch to Martin Luther King caught the feeling of his leap to the stars."

The elder King was born Michael King on Dec. 19, 1897, in Stockbridge, Ga., where his father worked on a plantation as a sharecropper, according to the King Institute. Mike King left the plantation after accusing the owner of cheating his father out of money. In Atlanta, Mike King remade himself. "You can see him becoming more and more prestigious," Carson, who was charged by King's estate to edit his papers, told The Washington Post in an interview. "When he marries Alberta, he is a modestly educated preacher without a significant church ... and probably a third-grade education until he goes to Morehouse College."

King Sr. graduated from Morehouse in 1930, and when his father-in-law died, he became pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. "From that point on, he is pretty much consistently called M.L.," Carson said. Many black people in the South used initials; they didn't want to be called by their first names. If they had initials, it was not an option for white people to call black people by their names.

Scholars say there is no definitive account of why the senior King changed his name, Carson said. "Daddy King himself said he changed the name because he had an uncle named Martin and an uncle named Luther, and he was following his father's wishes to change the name," Carson said. "But it seems likely he was affected by the trip to Berlin because that would have brought him in the land of Martin Luther. I think the obvious reason is Martin Luther sounded more distinguished than Mike King."

But the younger King initially "shrank from it, commenting publicly only once, after the Montgomery bus boycott, that 'perhaps' he 'earned' his name," Branch said. "Reverend King supplied the wish and the preparation, but it remained for strangers in the world at large to impose Martin Luther King's name upon him."



11:18



Youth:

Ed Schaefer, Jr., Chairman-
Matthew Crutchfield, Youth Director

THANKSGIVING SERVICE PROJECT

On Wed. Nov 24 six youth and five adults from GLC went to Austintown Senior Center to help Mahoning County Sheriffs package and organize around 600 Thanksgiving Meal Packages. Great work and a great time. Thanks to all the helpers!

LOCAL STOCKING STUFFER PROJECT

On Sun Dec. 5 the Senior and Junior High youth along with parents took donated items from the congregation and stuffed Christmas



stockings for the local "The Lord's Blessing Food Pantry" in Washingtonville. We even got a thank you from them on their Facebook page (see next door)

UPCOMING YOUTH MEETING

Parents and Youth are invited to a planning meeting Sunday January 23 immediately following the worship service. On the Agenda is events for the upcoming spring and the summer mission trip.



The Lord's Blessing Food Pantry

5h · 🌐

Good morning everyone. The Food Pantry will be open today from 10-2. I want to give a huge shout out to Greenford Lutheran Church and their youth group who brought 96 Filled Christmas Stockings!! Our community is so amazing!! Thank you very much and God Bless you all!! These stockings will be used for our Columbiana County Children's Christmas Giveaway!!



News Feed



Watch

9+



News

2



Notifications

5



Menu



When Christ said: "I was hungry and you fed me," he didn't mean only the hunger for bread and for food; he also meant the hunger to be loved. Jesus himself experienced this loneliness.

— Mother Teresa —

AZ QUOTES

Greenford Evangelical Lutheran Church

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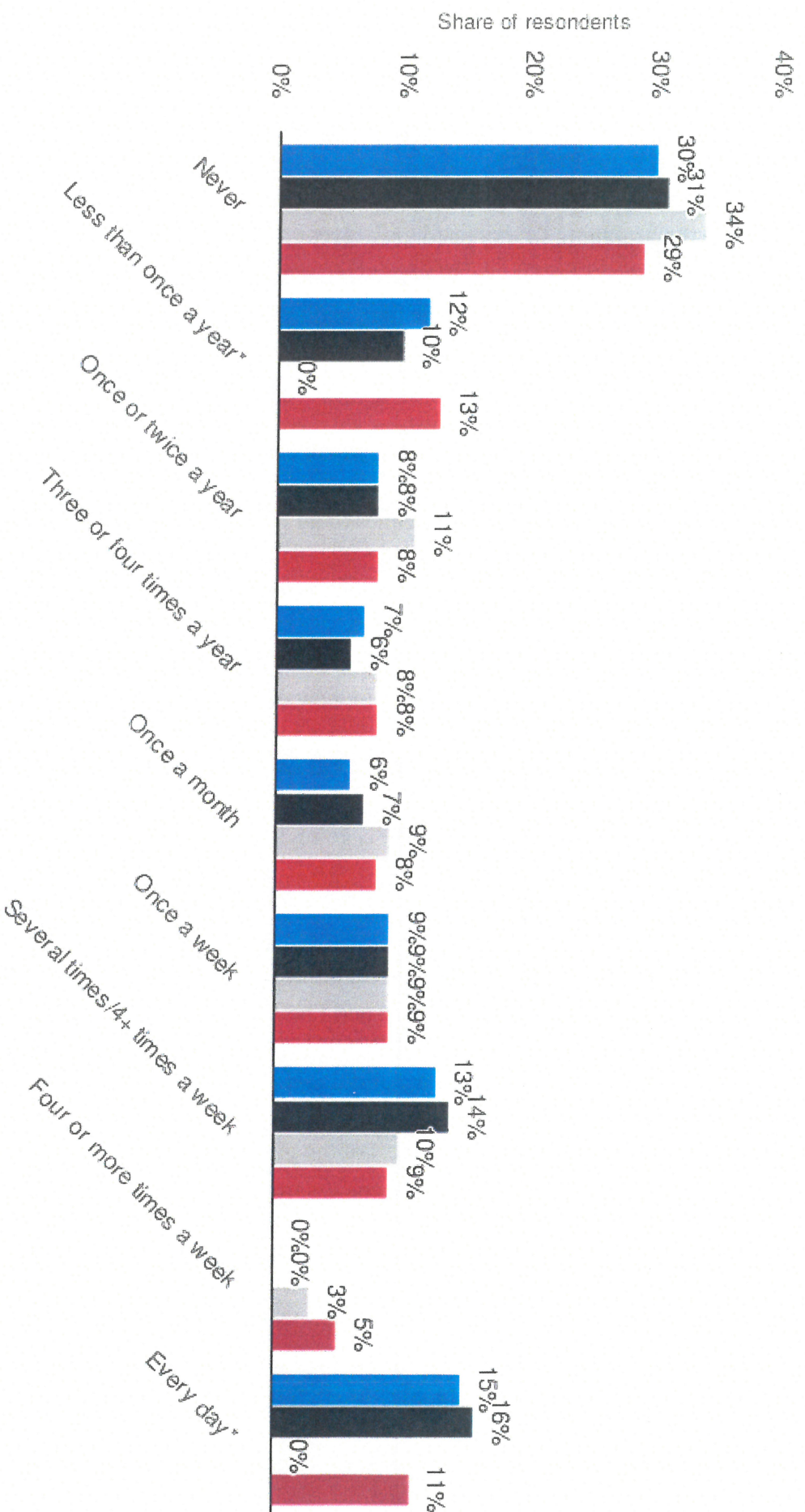
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Frequency of reading the Bible among adults in the United States from 2018 to 2021



● 2018 ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021

Sources

The Barna Group; American Bible Society
© Statista 2021

Additional Information:

United States; The Barna Group; American Bible Society; 2018 to 2021; 3,354 respondents; 18

1. John 3:16: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
2. Jer. 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
3. Rom 8:28: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
4. Phil 4:13: I can do everything through him who gives me strength.
5. Gen 1:1: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
6. Prov 3:5: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.
7. Prov 3:6: in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
8. Rom 12:2: Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
9. Phil 4:6: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
10. Matt 28:19: Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
11. Eph 2:8: For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
12. Gal 5:22: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
13. Rom 12:1: Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.
14. John 10:10: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
15. Acts 18:10: For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.”
16. Acts 18:9: One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent.
17. Acts 18:11: So Paul stayed for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.
18. Gal 2:20: I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
19. 1 John 1:9: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
20. Rom 3:23: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
21. John 14:6: Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
22. Matt 28:20: and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
23. Rom 5:8: But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
24. Phil 4:8: Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.
25. Phil 4:7: And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.