

# The Echo



*Second Sunday  
of Advent*

## **Sunday, December 5 - Second Sunday of Advent**

9 AM Worship at Galchutt Lutheran with communion followed by Sunday School

9:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship at Emmanuel with communion

11 AM - 1:30 PM *Emmanuel 27th Annual Meatball dinner, raffle & bake sale*



*Third Sunday  
of Advent*

## **Sunday, December 12 - Third Sunday of Advent**

9 AM Worship at Galchutt Lutheran

10:30 AM Worship at Emmanuel



*Fourth Sunday  
of Advent*

## **Sunday, December 19 - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9 AM Worship at Galchutt with communion & Sunday School Christmas program

9:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship at Emmanuel with communion

## **Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

4:00 PM Worship at Galchutt Lutheran with communion

5:30 PM Worship at Emmanuel Lutheran with communion



## **December 25 - Christmas Day**

No worship services



## **Sunday, December 26 - Service of Lessons & Carols**

9AM Worship at Galchutt Lutheran

10:30 AM Worship at Emmanuel Lutheran



**Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry Office: 701-553-8546**

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# EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS!

With the Christmas season soon upon us, we would like to decorate our sanctuaries with poinsettias again this year.



The cost this year is \$9 each.

Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants (\$9 each): \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

*Order blanks will also be available in an insert in the church bulletins.*

For Emmanuel, place your order forms and payment in the offering plate or mail to church office.

For Galchutt, get your order forms and payment to Sara Bellmore or mail to church office.

Checks can be made payable to either the Emmanuel Church or Galchutt Church, depending on where you want the flower placed.

**Order deadline is Sunday, December 12th.**

Richland Lutheran Church is hosting a free will donation Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 18th at 7 p.m. This night of music for the Christmas season will feature various members from their congregation! Join them for treats & refreshments as beautiful Christmas music fills the air! The free will offering will be going towards the needed structural roof improvements at Richland Lutheran Church, rural Walcott, ND. ALL ARE WELCOME!



## Emmanuel Lutheran 27th Annual Meatball Dinner with Bake Sale and Raffle Fundraiser

Sunday, December 5, 2021  
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM  
Abercrombie, ND



Come join us for a meatball and mashed potatoes dinner with all the fixings.  
Free will donation for the meal.  
Buy some baked goodies from the bake sale.  
Raffle Prizes will be drawn during the meal.  
Need not be present to win raffle prizes, if drawn.  
Hope to see you there!!

Take-out meals will be available.

If you have an announcement for an event or photos from a baptism, wedding, or some other special event regarding a member or former member of our parish, we would love to include the information in an upcoming issue. Please email them to [emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com)



Thank you all so much for a great Meet and Greet the Pastor Day on November 14th. It was so great to become acquainted with all of you and I'm looking forward to getting to know this wonderful community. I am so blessed to be serving Emmanuel and Galchutt Lutheran churches.

Advent season is upon us and it brings many blessings, but especially the blessing of a promise, a promise from God that Jesus will come, as proclaimed in Galatians 4:4. "But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons."

Hebrews 6:12-19 reminds us that God doesn't break his promises, and we find many promises throughout the Bible. They are an anchor for our souls, firm and secure. The Bible says that God promises to stay in "an everlasting covenant with us," and that means his promises will last forever.

Jesus is the result of God's most important promise, the promise to send us a Savior. Jesus is God's perfect Son who died and rose again to conquer sin.

What is a promise? What does it mean to make a covenant promise? A promise is a pledge or an oath to do something for someone else, no matter what. A covenant promise is an agreement between two people, it is a pledge from one person to another. Each says to the other, "I will do it, no matter what!" It is believing something will happen even before it does.

Have you ever had to wait for a promise to come true? Was it worth it? God's people waited a long time for some of God's promises to be fulfilled. The prophet Isaiah told God's people that He would someday send a Savior to them. Isaiah taught about Jesus hundreds of years before the Savior actually came to earth. God's people looked forward to seeing the answer to that promise year after year, until it finally happened.

Can you think about a time it was hard for you to keep a promise? Why is it important to keep your promises? The Bible warns against making oaths or promises that we cannot or do not want to keep. God wants us to be like Him, dependable and faithful in our promises. We thank God for His forgiveness each time we fail and we ask for God's help and wisdom in knowing how to keep our promises to each other.

What is your favorite promise from God? What makes it special to you? Let's look at some of God's promises. In Genesis 9:11-14, we discover that the rainbow is a sign of God's promise to never again flood the whole earth. In Galatians 4:4-7, we read that God promised to send His Son Jesus to be our Savior. John 17:2-3 tells us about His promise to give believers in Jesus eternal life. Jesus promised to never leave us in Matthew 28:20.

So, as we wait for Christmas, let us promise to remember the true meaning of this Day. Let us pray, *Dear God, thank you for being true to Your promise to send a Savior. Your love is so great! Help us draw closer to Jesus this Christmas season and trust in the faithfulness of Your promises to us. We also pray for friends and family who do not know Jesus as their Savior. Help them see the saving love of Jesus in the midst of their festivities. Amen*

God Bless you, *Pastor Janelle Hansen*



**EVERGREEN**—These trees, which keep their green leaves year-round, are symbolic of Christmas, eternal life and God's everlasting love. In the Bible, evergreen trees are called the "cedars of Lebanon," suggesting growth (Psalm 92:12), height (Amos 2:9), fragrance (Hosea 14:6) and steadfast faith.



As we near the end of the fiscal year for both churches, councils will be addressing various issues and preparing budgets. Please pray for guidance and wisdom for our councils and those who prepare for the future of these congregations. Pray that the decisions of our councils also convey the joy that we, as congregations, share with others through our gifts. When members contribute to their church, they show a desire to help people everywhere.

Maybe you haven't contributed as much as you had planned during 2021. It is never too late to catch up on your yearly donations! Offering donations are always welcome, especially as we close out the year.

While monetary donations are necessary to keep the church thriving, the joy of giving comes not only through monetary contributions, but also through "participation." While donating money to the church is an important aspect of stewardship, it is not the entire meaning of stewardship. Stewardship is not only money, it is also action! New council members will be needed to fill positions for those whose terms expire. Please prayerfully consider being a council member if you are asked to be part of that team. Sunday School teachers, scripture readers, ushers, musicians, and prayer warriors are always needed, in whatever role you can help.

As we near the end of 2021, I personally want to thank those that have helped this past year in supplying me information or help so *The Echo* can go out to our members and friends. Thank you to Pastors Meggie and Janelle, Ellen R., Linda K., Jan R., and our council secretaries. And thank you to any of you who have sponsored the Echo during 2021.

Everything we have is a gift from God: our time, our talents, and our financial resources. Have a very blessed Christmas season recalling the good news, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

*LouAnn Lee*

## Anticipating Christmas

As I look around, I see the trimmed trees, ornaments, and garland embellishing the sanctuary in my church. There's the Nativity set up with the angel looking lovingly down on the newborn child. Friends and family, smiling, standing shoulder-to-shoulder in the pews singing songs we have heard over and over and love so well. Then, of course, the little ones wander in, dressed up like shepherds and angels, while their teachers scurry around getting them in their proper spots. Proud parents and grandparents snap pictures.

The wonder of the season stays with me as I leave the church and see houses lit up in twinkling color. Inside, kids are adding their favorite ornaments to their perfect trees. I think of the cookies and candy that are offered only once a year and how I laugh with family and friends over a meal that makes our mouths water.

Christmas is such a special day but it's also the excitement, the anticipation, the sense of belonging as we prepare for this celebration that also makes it important. Let's not forget those who don't have these things and aren't as lucky as we are this year—those who aren't well, those who don't have warm homes or families nearby, those who don't have the money to buy gifts or food. Let's gift others with a little Christmas through kind acts, prayers, and maybe a special donation of time or money to someone or something you truly believe in.

*Linda Kuruc*



# ADVENT

*A Season of Preparation*

Now that we are in Advent, the church season of preparation for the birth of Christ, we look forward to the Sunday lighting of the Advent candles marking the days leading to Christmas. During the week, however, it's easy to get distracted with shopping for gifts, planning those special gatherings and meals, enjoying a lutefisk dinner...or two, maybe even attending a musical performance to get us in the spirit of Christmas. Sometimes it can all distract us a bit from the true meaning of the season.

Nevertheless, family traditions can sometimes tie it all together. In my family, I remember trudging through the snow with my brother to select and cut down the perfect tree and the excitement of preparing for the Christmas Eve children's program. Traditions have changed, it seems, from when I was young with an ever-increasing emphasis on commercialization of Christmas and less on the spiritual.

To help guide us as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's coming, retired pastor Kwen Sanderson wrote a song based on the Serenity Prayer and included in The God Pause, a daily devotional:

1. God our Father, grant serenity today. Lead and guide us as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. God our Father, grant serenity today.
2. Brother Jesus, grant us courage for today. Give us life as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. Brother Jesus, grant us courage for today.
3. Holy Spirit, grant us wisdom for today. Give us prayers as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. Holy Spirit, grant us wisdom for today.
4. God our Father, grant serenity today. Lead and guide us as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. God our Father, grant serenity today.
5. Brother Jesus, grant us courage for today. Give us life as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. Brother Jesus, grant us courage for today.
6. Holy Spirit, grant us wisdom for today. Give us prayers as we travel on our way. Lead us on, bring us home, lest we start to roam. Holy Spirit, grant us wisdom for today.

The song is not copyrighted, so if you or someone you know would like to use it, for the music and guitar chords send an email to [kwen.sanderson@gmail.com](mailto:kwen.sanderson@gmail.com).

*Ellen Rittenhouse*

***Thank you to the following for their recent donations:***

- Emmanuel Quilting Fund:
- Clifton & Donna Stedje
- Emmanuel Flooring Fund
- Donald Nelson
- Emmanuel General Fund
- Gary Halgunseth
  - Linda Halgunseth



***Thank you to the "Kent Pie Ladies" for the wonderful apple pies that we enjoyed after the Thanksgiving Eve service. They were delicious!!***





Pamela Krump \*  
Doug Johnson  
Daniel Dockter  
Marissa Moxness  
Alex Paczkowski  
Logan Biffert

## Galchutt Lutheran Council Highlights

The Galchutt Church Council met on November 17 at 6:30 PM at Galchutt Lutheran Church. Members present were Pamela Krump, Alex Paczkowski, Doug Johnson, Logan Biffert, Marissa Moxness, Doug Kuruc, and Pastor Janelle Hanson. Pamela called the meeting to order, and Pastor Janelle led with a devotion and prayer. Alex read last month's secretaries report and Marissa accepted the report and Logan seconded. Pamela presented the treasury report from Kendra. Alex accepted the report and Marissa seconded. Doug Kuruc presented to the council about St. Johns church. He looked into a grant from the North Dakota Historical Society for getting the church re-shingled. He was having a hard time getting bids on shingles from local contractors. The council agreed to wait on the grant to talk with the congregation at the annual meeting on what the next steps on shingling St. Johns would be. The next time we could apply for the grant is 2 years. He also mentioned that St. John's church is registered under the Historical Society under South Wild Rice Church. Doug Kuruc asked about service of the new lawn mower. Doug Johnson will talk with RDO to see if there was a service agreement, if not Doug Kuruc will service himself. The annual meeting was set for January 15 at 9:00 AM. Doug Johnson, Marissa Moxness, and Pamela Krump are off council next year. The nominating committee of Larry Wold, Pamela Krump, and Katie Nordick will look for 3 possible candidates. St John's church is still being worked on. All the studs have been replaced. Doug took care of the septic tank cover at Galchutt. The computers at the church office are in working order. Pastor Janelle is looking for families to help during advent reading a short scripture and lighting the candles. The Sunday school program is set for December 19. The church service on December 26 will consist of hymns and scripture readings. Pastor Janelle reported 562 miles for October. Pastor Janelle thanked everyone for welcoming her and showing up for lunch at the meet and greet on November 14 in Abercrombie. November 24 at 6:30 PM Emmanuel will have Thanksgiving Eve Service with Pie social after service. Next meeting was scheduled for December 14 at 6:30 PM.

*Secretary, Alexandra*

### We keep the following in our prayers:

- ◆ Kevin Paczkowski, who has been hospitalized for several weeks in Sanford Hospital;
- ◆ Lenny & Mary Krueger, who were both recently hospitalized but are now home;
- ◆ Karen Krump, who is recovering from foot surgery;
- ◆ The family of Mary Jo Shafer, who passed away at the end of October. Mary Jo grew up next door to the Galchutt Church and is related to Flaa family;
- ◆ All those who are suffering from depression or addiction or any other illness; and
- ◆ Those service members deployed and away from family or anyone who is lonely during this holiday season.



**He will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:6



## Emmanuel Lutheran Council Highlights

The Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council met on November 3, 2021. In attendance were Sharon Tschakert, Jessica Kappes, Craig Syvertsen, Tessa Tschakert, Lesley Hulne, Lou Ann Lee, Austin Heyen, and Pastor Janelle. President Jessica called the meeting to order, and Janelle led us in devotion.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Janelle is doing some nursing home visitations as well as home and hospital visits. She attended the Synod Conference meeting and will go to the ELCA Youth Summit and training in Minneapolis. Janelle submitted mileage for October, and Tessa made a motion to approve the mileage, Sharon seconded the motion and it carried.

**Secretary's Report:** The report was given and approved, with a change of the November meeting date, in a motion by Craig and second by Sharon.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lou Ann presented the Treasurer's report. Craig made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Sharon seconded, and the motion carried.

### Committee Reports:

**Education:** The next scheduled Sunday School is November 7.

**Property:** Austin Heyen was here to review the functions of the various thermostats in the church, and he will develop a printed list of the thermostats' information. The thermostat in the dining room will be replaced, and we will investigate ducting between the Upstad Room and the Sanctuary to improve air flow. The basement flooring project is ongoing.

**Worship:** The committee will meet with Galchutt on November 10 to choose hymns.

**Old Business:** Emmanuel will host the Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:30 PM on November 24. Sharon & Tessa will purchase Apple and Pumpkin Pies and Craig will get the ice cream and whipped topping. The meet and greet for Pastor Janelle is on November 14 from 11:30 AM - 1 PM, and we will serve barbeques, beans, pickles, beverages, and chips. Galchutt is providing the buns and bars. We will make a second contact with a possible hire for the custodian position. The first Sunday of Advent is November 28, and we will decorate the tree that day after the Sunday Service.

**New Business:** The Meatball Dinner on December 5 was discussed. Tessa and Lou Ann will pick up the groceries. The preparation time will be determined later.

The next meeting is December 15, 2021, at 6:30 PM. Tessa moved to adjourn the meeting. Sharon seconded the motion and it carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Secretary, Lesley Hulne*



Only Matthew records the holy family's "flight into Egypt," linking Advent with Lent and Christmas with Good Friday. In an article titled "Joy to the World/Pain in the World," James I. Cook expresses gratitude that Matthew documents the slaughter of the innocents: "I turn to it again and again, when someone I know loses a loved one at the height of the Christmas season. It helps me — and I hope it helps them — to remember that theirs are not the first tears to fall on Christmas; to recall that there has never been a Christmas of pure peace and happiness; [to recognize] that 'joy to the world' has always been sung to the accompaniment of much 'pain in the world.'"


—adapted from *Homiletics*







**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

			1 Confirmation 3:30 - 5:30 PM	2	3	4
5 Galchutt Worship 9AM & SS 9:45AM  Emmanuel SS 9:30AM & Worship 10:30AM  "Meatball dinner"	6	7	8 Confirmation 3:30 - 5:30 PM	9	10	11
12 Galchutt Worship 9AM  Emmanuel Worship 10:30AM	13	14 Galchutt Council Meeting 6:30 PM	15 Confirmation 3:30 - 5:30 PM  Emmanuel Council Meeting 6:30 PM	16	17	18
19 Galchutt Worship 9AM with Sunday School Christmas Program  Emmanuel SS 9:30AM & Worship 10:30AM	20	21	22	23	24 "Candlelight Christmas Eve Service"  Galchutt 4 PM  Emmanuel 5:30 PM	25 Christmas Day  No services
26 Galchutt Worship 9AM  Emmanuel Worship 10:30AM	27	28	29	30	31	Deb Syvertsen  Emmanuel Altar Guild  

**Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry Office: 701-553-8546**  
 Synod Authorized Minister Janelle Hansen: cell 701-205-6803  
 GEM Administrative Assistant: [emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com); Cell 701-640-0321  
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**Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church      Galchutt Lutheran Church  
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Abercrombie, ND 58001        Galchutt, ND 58075



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This month's issue of ***The Echo***  
is sponsored by  
Jenny & Tony Wulfekuhle -  
*In loving memory of*  
**Morna & Harold Syvertsen and**  
**Emmy & Jim Wulfekuhle**



**ECHO SPONSORSHIP FORM**

Thank you for supporting The Echo. Sponsorships for July 2022 and some months in 2022 are available as of the date of this publication. If you are interested in sponsoring a future issue, please fill out the form below and mail your check to:  
**Galchutt Church, c/o Kendra Dockter, 16860 70th St SE, Colfax, ND 58018.**

**This Echo is sponsored by:**

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**Just for Laughs.....**

