



# THE EVANGEL

Evangel - from the Greek euangelos meaning good messenger, or good news.

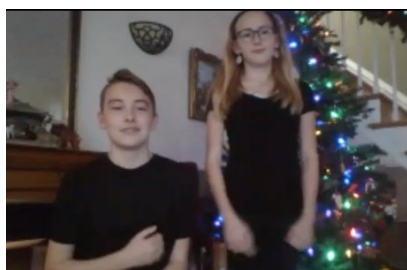
Temple Lutheran Church

January/February 2021

## In Spite of COVID, the Pageant Goes On

**By Julianna Pierdomenico**  
(Children, Youth & Family Minister)

When I came to the Youth Group at the beginning of November and asked if they wanted to be involved in planning, writing, and preparing the 2020 Christmas pageant, the answer was an astounding YES! In the first week of November, the group brainstormed ideas for the pageant. Last year, the pageant lived in the world of Toy Story. This year the pageant would live in the world of A Christmas Carol. Thus commenced the writing process.



**Declan and Dana Mannion**  
as the narrators.

For the rest of November, our Youth Group meetings consisted of reading various Christmas Carol scripts to understand the story and figuring out how to tie it in with the Christmas story, all while making it entertaining and understandable, *and* figuring out how we could include other youth of the congregation. Can't be too hard, right? Well, the members of the Youth Group were up to this enormous task, and I'd say they did an excellent job of it! Once the script was completed in November, we started thinking about how we

could present it. It was decided the pageant would all come together over Zoom.

Our story starred Mira Boston as Scrooge, Beatrix Lay as the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, Delaney Mannion as Nephew/Jacob Marley, and Dana and Declan Mannion as our narrators. Nine other families joined us in addition to the three in the Youth Group. These nine other families performed musical offerings and told stories of Christmas. Scrooge, as his miserable self, would learn about the Christmas story through the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future as well as our other youth who shared about their favorite Christmas memories, how they were getting ready for Christmas this year, and how we continue to celebrate the good news of Jesus' birth throughout the year. In the end, Scrooge learns about Jesus, sharing the good news, and how he is never too old to repent because we have a God that gives us infinite chances and always invites us into living into the Christmas joy. I think that's a message we can all remind ourselves of throughout the year!



**Mira Boston as Scrooge and**  
**Beatrix Lay as the Ghosts of**  
**Past, Present and Future.**



**Delaney Mannion**  
as Nephew/Jacob  
Marley.

*Join us for Worship*

*Live Streamed Service*  
*Sundays*  
*at 9:30 a.m.*

*In-Person Worship*  
*8:30 a.m.*  
*(Must register)*

*9:30 Live Streaming*  
*will continue*  
*indefinitely.*

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 **Temple**  
Lutheran Church

# Oh, Livestream, All Ye Faithful!

This is beginning to sound like a broken record, but this year's Christmas Eve service was different due to the ongoing pandemic. Who would have thought we'd still be dealing with livestreamed worship at Christmas time?

Thanks to Pastor Tim and Temple's music contingent, as well as our vital tech experts, it was still beautiful and meaningful.



**Zoe Boston, Mark Wallace and Florrie Marks perform "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear."**

There was still a musical prelude, complete with handbells, classical carols, and soothing melodies. There was still a thought-provoking sermon and worship and communion. There was still a moving and ingenious lighting of the candles to conclude the service, though the faces and hands of the people usually holding those candles were missing. As Pastor Tim said, it was still Christmas, and the true spirit of Christmas abounded in the generosity and caring of Temple's people through the food pantry, the gifts for foster children and women's ministry, the Life Center meals, and the reaching out to and support of one another in many ways.

As beautiful and meaningful as it was, hopefully we will be back together in person next year!

Special thanks to:

**Director of Music Ministries:** Florrie Marks (Music Director, Organist, Pianist/Keyboardist, Guitarist, Vocalist)

**Handbell Quartet:** Kyle Barger, Mira Boston, Beatrix Lay, Florrie Marks

**Vocalists:** Sarah Foss, Beatrix Lay, Amanda Quillen, Mark Wallace

**Violinist:** Zoë Boston

**Percussionist:** Mark Wallace

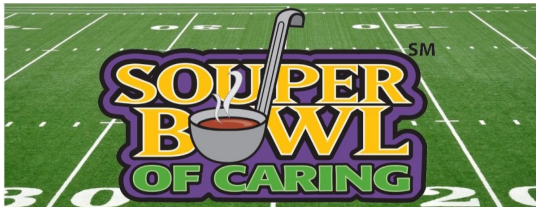
**Handbell Soloist:** Susan Best

**"O Holy Night":** Amanda Quillen, soloist

**Videographers:** Kyle Barger, Brian Lay



**Susan Best performs a handbell solo during the Christmas Eve service.**



## Memorial Service Celebrates Jeanne Pocock's Life

**By Judy Lloyd**

*[On December 21 a virtual memorial service celebrated the life of Jeanne Pocock. Below is a reflection on that service by Jeanne's close friend and TLC mission partner, Judy Lloyd.]*



**Pastor Tim presides at Jeanne Pocock's memorial service with the poinsettias she loved so much in the background.**

What can I say about Isabel "Jeanne" Pocock? The woman was wonderful. She was a great friend, good teacher, loved her church and church family, loved to collect things, travel, help those in need, etc., etc., etc. There are not enough words to express what a great human God created in Jeanne. I miss her terribly.

Her memorial service was better than even she would have suspected since we "older folk" don't always know what can be done with computer technology. Pastor Tim and everyone involved with the online service did such a great job. I am sure Jeanne was smiling from ear to ear. Her wishes were followed to the letter, and Pastor Tim's homily showed how well he knew and cared for her. The pictures added in with the hymns was a great

touch. While a service at the church would have been preferred, the online version was so good it helped me to finalize Jeanne's passing. Thank you!



## Live Streaming Services Continue

Many thanks to Florrie Marks, Kyle Barger, Sarah Foss, Amanda Quillen, Mark Wallace, Juli Pierdomenico and Pastor Tim for continuing to bring everything together and live stream the services.

Come and share the experience. Find the link on the website [templelutheran.org](http://templelutheran.org) or in your Temple Connections and participate in this wonderful thing we call church. Bulletins are also available online.

**In certainty of the Resurrection, Temple Lutheran Church celebrates the life of**

**LOIS GABBOTT**



**March 27, 1937- November 24, 2020**

**Annual Meeting**



**Sunday, January 24  
9:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed  
Zoom meeting to follow**

## Temple's Generosity Abounds

The people of Temple Lutheran Church have once again shown their overwhelming generosity. During the month of December the following projects were successfully completed:

Gifts for Foster Children: 97

Gift bags for women at Chester Eastside Ministries: 79

Food Pantry deliveries (including \$25 Target gift cards): 81

Poinsettias for church: 48

Masks for Hunger: \$1,320

Thank you to everyone who helped to spread the true meaning of Christmas and make Christ known!



**Pastor Tim blesses the gifts for foster children and the women at Chester Eastside Ministries.**

## Celia Engman Takes on New Role

Celia Engman, a long time mission partner since 1988, has taken on the role of Financial Secretary at TLC. The position involves recording individual donations to Temple, helping mission partners get set up for automatic giving, and generating giving statements for contributors. Celia reports that



**Celia Engman, TLC's new Financial Secretary.**

beginning this year, we'll be using the system Servant Keeper for this function.

Celia has served several terms as Church Council President over the years, completing her last term in 2019. As a young married adult, she helped with youth events and community service. As an active parent, she helped with nursery, Sunday School and many family activities. Now, she is sharing her professional skills by being involved in church administrative functions. Celia works for Comcast in a planning role that supports the ordering, customer care and billing system.

We welcome Celia's expertise and also thank Nancy Hallowell, the outgoing Financial Secretary, who has served faithfully and competently for the last ten years.

## Callie Charlotte is Baptized at TLC

On December 6, 2020 the Ghelardi family celebrated the baptism of Callie Charlotte in a small, socially distanced ceremony in the church. Pastor Tim presided, parents Michael and Amy promised to bring up Callie to know and love Christ, big sisters Audrey and Juliet joined in, and sponsors Lucas and Sarah (participating on Facetime) pledged their support.

We welcome Callie as a mission partner at TLC and look forward to the day we can all greet her in person during worship.



**The Ghelardi family celebrates the Baptism of Callie Charlotte: Michael holding Juliet, Amy holding Callie, sponsor Lucas, and in front, Audrey.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS



- Thursday  
January 21**      **Staying Connected in Community**
- Saturday  
January 23**      **TLC Food Pantry**  
Servants Welcome!  
**1-3 PM**
- Sunday  
January 24**      **Annual Meeting**  
One Service, livestreamed at 9:30 a.m.  
**~10:30 AM**      Annual meeting on Zoom

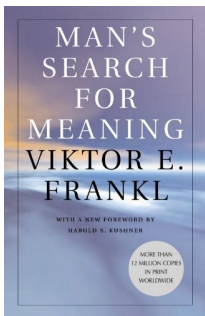
**Times for services are subject to change  
based on COVID in our area.**



- Monday  
February 1**      **TLC Book Club**  
See announcements below  
**8:00 PM**
- Sunday  
Feb. 7**      **Souper Bowl Sunday**  
Service at 9:30 a.m. live-streamed  
**Noon**      Take-out Soup Luncheon
- Wednesday  
Feb. 17**      **Ash Wednesday**
- Thursday  
Feb. 18**      **Staying Connected in Community**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Book Club Meeting



Our next book for the TLC Book Club will be **"Man's Search for Meaning"** by Viktor E. Frankl.

Please join us on Monday, February 1 at 8PM for great discussion and fellowship. Even if you haven't read the

book, you are very welcome to join! For more details on how to join the video chat, contact Despina at [despina.kontos@gmail.com](mailto:despina.kontos@gmail.com).

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 24 following the 9:30 AM live-streamed worship service. It will be conducted using Zoom.

### Women's Group Meeting

The women's group will meet by Zoom on Sunday, January 31 from 1:00 - 2:30. If you have questions, contact Lisa Schneller.

### SOUPer Bowl Sunday

As we do each year, we welcome you to a special SOUPer Bowl celebration as we seek to tackle hunger by inviting you to donate money and "vote" for which team you'd like to win at the big game. Donations will go to Lutheran World Relief. After worship, stop by the church to pick up some soup for lunch. We are looking for soup makers, set up crew, serving crew and clean up crew. Sign up on the Sign Up Genius link. Questions: Contact Gail and David Nichols or Rob Mannix.

### Donating to Temple

While we are all social distancing, the work and expenses of the church continue. There are now many ways you can donate to TLC: Mail a check to the church office, authorize payment through your bank, sign up for electronic giving with Celia Engman, use the PayPal link on the website or in Temple Connections. Questions? Contact Celia Engman or the office.



## Contact Us

If you have any questions, or if you have suggestions or submissions for the upcoming Evangel:

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