



# KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER

December 2021

583 Hawk Mountain Road; P.O. Box 140; Kempton, PA 19529 ■ 610-756-6140 ■ [society@knccs.org](mailto:society@knccs.org)

## The Annunciation: JEHOVAH CAME INTO THE WORLD

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent out from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the name of the virgin was Mary. And the angel coming into her said, Hail, thou who art graced! The Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women.

But when she saw him she was disturbed at his word, and reasoned within herself what manner of a greeting this should be. And the angel said to her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found grace with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and shalt bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest, and the Lord God shall give to Him the throne of His father David. And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end. But Mary said to the angel, How shall this be, since I know not a man? And the angel answering said to her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that which shall be born of thee Holy shall be called the Son of God.

And behold thy kinswoman Elizabeth, she also has conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God not any saying shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold, the maidservant of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy saying. And the angel departed from her. Luke 1:26-36

By Gabriel is meant the ministry [in heaven] of those who teach from the Word, that Jehovah came into the world, and that the Human He there assumed is the Son of God, and Divine; for which reason, the angel who announced the same to Mary is called "Gabriel." AR 548

## PASTOR'S NOTES

Gabriel's annunciation to Mary is meant as much for us today as it was for her over 2,000 years ago. Gabriel, who represents an entire ministry of angels who love to announce that the Lord came into the world, didn't stop teaching this once it was recorded in *Luke*. These angels in the Gabriel society are teaching us right now—through these beautiful words in the Sacred Scripture—that Jesus Christ is the Lord. And we can be part of this same ministry of angels. Perhaps this Christmas season we can look for ways to share the message that it was the Lord God Himself who came into the world, just like Gabriel announced it to Mary.

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**A Booklet of Daily Christmas Readings** is available for you to pick up at church and is also posted at [www.kemptonnewchurch.org](http://www.kemptonnewchurch.org). Thank you to those who put this together to help us meditate on the Lord's salvation.

**The Board of Trustees** met on November 9. The board received a report on maintenance items for the facility, a report on the effects of inflation on the upcoming budget, and a review of how the pastor and assistant principal are approaching employment for the church and school to protect against falling into employment practices that undermine the New Church and especially conjugal love.

**Adult Service:** We will have an adult service on the morning of Sunday, December 19, because tableaux services are being offered in the afternoon on that day and these will be well suited for children. Parents are welcome, however, to bring their children to the adult service if they would like to.

**Holy Supper** will be offered on Friday, December 17, and on the first Sunday morning of the new year, January 2. "It has pleased the Lord to reveal the spiritual sense of the Word, to enable this church to enter into the real use and benefit of these sacraments, baptism and holy supper..." (TCR 700)

**Winter Study – The Parables:** For the first six weeks of every new year, those who wish to join in our study of a certain topic gather themselves into groups that meet once a week, generally in homes. This January and February our topic will be the parables given by the Lord in the New Testament. We hope these discussions will be inspiring and useful; gathering like this is a great way to make friends while learning together about the Lord and the ways He leads us.

**Reading booklets** will be provided ahead of time. They can be picked up after church each week (or at the church office) and will also be posted on our website (kemptonnewchurch.org).

**If you would like to host a group and have seats to offer, or if you want to join a class,** please let me or Carla Kerr know so we can help people get connected if needed. Groups are free to invite a minister to lead their discussion if they like. They can also meet in the school library or commons if a home isn't available, and arrange for Zoom attendance, wherever, if desired. (Due to COVID, meeting protocols should be made clear to everyone in the groups.) You might like to think about arranging to be part of a group before the holidays get busy, since the study will begin as soon in 2022 as each group is ready to start.

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## WORSHIP

- All 10:00 AM services live streamed: kemptonnewchurch.org
- Services can be heard in the library. Parents with babies or little ones are always welcome to be in there, where a basket of board books (not library books, please) is available. Please leave the room in orderly shape. Thanks!

*Sunday, December 5, 10:00 A.M. Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: Torrey Cooper*

*Sunday, December 12, 9:00 A.M. Young Children's Service. Usher/Setup: Anders and Juliet Smith*  
*10:00 A.M. Family Service*  
*Usher/Setup: Mike Heiter*

*Friday, December 17, 6:30 P.M. HOLY SUPPER*  
*Please contact Brett by noon on the 16<sup>th</sup> if wanting to partake.*

*Sunday, December 19, 10:00 A.M. Adult Service*  
*Usher/Setup: Jay Nash*  
*5:00, 6:00, and 7:30 P.M. Tableaux Services*  
*Outdoors, weather permitting*  
*Ushers/Setup: Brandon Jungé and R.C. Storch*

*Friday, December 24*  
*5:00 P.M. Family Christmas Service*  
*Usher/Setup: Thos Powell & Gerald van Zyverden*

*Sunday, December 26, 10:00 A.M. Family Service*  
*Usher/Setup: Bengt Boyesen*

## CLASSES

**Attending from a distance:** Please contact the minister leading the class if you would like to attend virtually and think you may not be on his classes e-mail list. He will share a Zoom link with you, which will let you join by phone or video.

*Wednesday, December 1, 10:30 A.M. Morning Class:*  
*Doctrine of Charity, Chapter 5*  
 At Old School Village and online (Lawson Smith)

*Saturday, December 4, 1:00 P.M. Parents-New-to-KNCS Class. Brett's office.*

*Wednesday, December 8, 7:30 P.M.*  
 Society Christmas Doctrinal Class:  
*Mary's Visit to Elizabeth*  
 In the KNCS library and online (Lawson Smith)

*Friday, December 10, 7:15 P.M. Youth Group*  
*Conjugal Love Class, with socializing to follow.*  
 Cade and Caelwen Cole's

*Wednesday, December 15*  
 10:30 A.M. Morning Christmas Class:  
*Mary's Visit to Elizabeth*  
 At Old School Village and online (Lawson Smith)

## MEETINGS

*Wednesday, December 1, 7:30 P.M.*  
 Pastor's Council Meeting. Library

## EVENTS

*Thursday, December 2, 6:00-9:00 P.M. and*  
*Friday, December 3, 2:00-9:00 P.M., Ladies invited*  
 to make fundraiser Christmas wreaths.  
 Brandon and Char Jungé's barn.

*Saturday, December 4, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.*  
 Craft Sale. Society Room. (Caleb's Café open during this time too – for beverages only). Doors open at 9:00 A.M. for crafters' setup.  
 6:30 P.M. Christmas Sing. Society Room (See full details under "Notices".)

*Sunday, December 5, 2:00-4:00 P.M. Kempton Fools Guild auditions. Society Room (See "Notices".)*  
 DEADLINE for leaving donated shoes in church foyer closet after church for Washington New Church School.

*Monday, December 6, 6:30-8:00 P.M. Kempton Fools Guild auditions. Soc. Room (See "Notices".)*

*Friday, December 17, KNCS Christmas Break*  
 begins at end of school day. Classes resume 1/3/22.

*Saturday, December 25 – HAPPY CHRISTMAS!*

**From the CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE**

The Kempton New Church annual appeal letter has gone into the mail. Please use this opportunity to consider how much our lives and the lives of the community at large benefit from the presence of a New Church society in Kempton. And please consider a one time or regular monthly gift to support the work of the church.

If you have never donated, give it a try. If you want to discuss your giving plans, please contact Contributions Committee Chair, Mark Wyncoll (484-809-4022), or KNC Treasurer, Ian Keal (484-619-1619). We would be happy to help and to share various methods of tax advantaged giving.

Also, please know that to express gratitude to our pastors, the offertory at our service on Christmas Eve is offered to them in recognition of and appreciation for their service to our society. We thank them for their care.

Thank you, and Happy Christmas to all.

**NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Warmest Condolences:** Our hearts go out to Sarah and Luke Heiter and their family as Sarah's father, Scott Kershner, passes into the Spiritual World. He left natural life behind on Tuesday, November 30, and will be missed by those still here. May both he and they find peace in the tender care of the Lord. "And you now therefore indeed have sorrow; but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no one takes from you." (John 16:22)

**Warmest Condolences:** Clay D. McQueen, Curtis McQueen's brother and Sheila Heiter's uncle, passed into the Spiritual World on November 20 at the age of 55. We hold all of Clay's family, including his wife Cathy and their children, in our prayers. May heaven bring them comfort as Clay discovers the place prepared for him there by the Lord. A memorial service will be held on Wed., Dec. 29, at 4:00 P.M. at the Bryn Athyn Cathedral. All are welcome to attend or watch the live stream at <http://brynathynchurch.org/cathedral/live-services> (The reception following the service will be private.)

**Blessings Now and Eternally:** We are happy to report the baptism of Hauzer Heinrichs King, infant son of Kendal and Linnea. The sacrament took place in Sunday morning church on November 28, bringing special angels near us all. "May [it] go well with thee, and with thy sons after thee, ...mayest [thou] prolong thy days upon the ground which Jehovah thy God gives thee, forever." (Deut. 4:40)

**Ladies, Come Make Fundraiser Christmas**

**Wreaths!** This Thursday and Friday (see "Events"). Put in whatever time you can at Jungés' barn and be rewarded with good visiting, a sense of satisfaction, and a hot drink! – Katrin

**Kempton Craft Sale – almost here!** (See "Events".) Crafters, let me know if you'd like a table. – Jen McQ

**Come to a Society Christmas Sing - December 4:** Carols will begin at 6:30 P.M. At 7:30 P.M. we will take a break for snacks and time to celebrate the season together while giving families time to take small children home if needed. Drinks will be provided, but please bring a favorite Christmas snack or dessert to share. A photographer will be on hand (or bring your own camera) for a Christmas Photo Booth. Please contact any one of us with questions. – Becky Cooper, Heather King, Roxanne Genzlinger

**2022 Wall Calendars Continue to be for Sale:** With quotes from the Sacred Scripture and the Heavenly Doctrine. In the society room on Sundays and on the office counter during the week, from now until gone. ALL proceeds benefit KNC and KNCS. \$10 dollars each, or 10 for \$90. You can pay with cash or a check made out to *Kempton New Church*. Please contact Mark Wyncoll with any questions.

**Society Christmas Mail Boxes** are installed at KNC every December to facilitate the "mailing" of any Christmas cards we might want to send to others in the congregation. The boxes (with individual name labels) will be set up at some point in the hallway between the Society Room and school. They're not the property of KNC; they're a lovely gift we're given every year by thoughtful friends, and we are grateful.

**Decorations for Christmas Church:** Two things come to mind – "Many hands make light work" and "Less is more." Do either of these help you—or a couple of you—feel encouraged to oversee some decorating for us this year? Let me know? 😊 – Carla Kerr

**As Good as "Updated" Documents Ever Are?** Attached are KNC address and phone lists for you to print. If you would like paper copies to be sent to you, please just ask. – Carla

**And Now from the Kempton Fools Guild:** Sword fights, magic potions, an evil prince, shoes worn to shreds by 12 princesses dancing night after night! Kempton Fools Guild will be doing "The Twelve Dancing Princesses" this season. Come to auditions in the Society Room on Sunday, Dec. 5, 2:00-4:00 P.M., or Monday, Dec. 6, 6:30-8:00 P.M. Please contact me with any questions. – Heather King

### Copies of the SACRED SCRIPTURE and the HEAVENLY DOCTRINE Available:

1. With Christmas on its way, we'd like to remind you that we have copies of the Kempton Project translation of the Word for sale. Go here -

[www.thesacredscripture.org/theWord](http://www.thesacredscripture.org/theWord) - to see pricing and to use a credit card or PayPal to have your purchase mailed anywhere. No postage needed if you pick up at the Kempton New Church (where Carla at the pastor's office can help during the week, and Lawson Smith can help anytime, including after church on Sundays). If you pick up in person, you can pay with a check made out to Heavenly Doctrine Publishing Foundation.

2. Also available, for the first time, are copies of the classic Ager translation of *Divine Love and Wisdom*. To order and have shipped anywhere in the U.S. via the Lulu print-on-demand website, go to [www.tinyurl.com/dlw-ager](http://www.tinyurl.com/dlw-ager). We are hoping to make more of the classic translations available in the near future, as most are currently out of print.

3. We also offer *used* copies of these translations for the cost of postage only (unless a friendly car ride from Kempton can be found for them). We have copies of most of the Swedenborg Foundation standard version and many of the Swedenborg Society books as well, many of them like new. If interested, please contact Gideon and Loretta Alden (in Kempton) at [algoose2@verizon.net](mailto:algoose2@verizon.net) or 610-756-4142.

We read in the short outline entitled *An Ecclesiastical History of the New Church*, written by Swedenborg 250 years ago: "On all the books in the spiritual world was inscribed 'the Advent of the Lord.'" The books of the Heavenly Doctrine constitute the Lord's Second Coming. Through them we can understand just how marvelous and essential the *first* Advent of the Lord into the world was, just a little over 2000 years ago.

– the Heavenly Doctrine Publishing Foundation

**Artwork For Sale:** A log cabin? Cavorting rabbits? Busy birds? Families and reindeer and dogs, Oh My! Fabric meets canvas and results in hangable, folk art/quilt-themed artwork. Original designs crafted in the studio of Judy Synnestvedt. Framed and ready to hang. Gift wrapping not available. Call for details; I can text pictures. Also available at the craft sale in the Society Room this Saturday. – Judy

**Used Children's Books for Sale:** For those interested in children's books for Christmas gifts, you are welcome to browse my collection, which is organized by type and easy to look through. Ranges from board books to chapter books with a lot in between, including titles that were childhood favorites as well as new discoveries. Contact me to set up a time. – Genta Hendricks

### ANNIVERSARIES

Marriages in the heavens do not lead to the procreation of offspring, but their place is taken by spiritual offspring, love and wisdom.... It is said that [love and wisdom] are born, because conjugal love perfects an angel, so uniting him with his consort that he becomes more and more human; for two partners in heaven are not two but one angel. Therefore, by conjugal union they fill themselves with the human, which consists in willing to become wise, and in loving that which pertains to wisdom. (Conjugal Love 52)

#### *Congratulations and Best Wishes to:*

**Richard and Louise Gardam**

on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 48 years

**Kevin and Susan Henriques**

on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 36 years

**Christopher and Heather Smith**

on the 30<sup>th</sup> – 27 years

**Brett and Karla Buick**

on the 31<sup>st</sup> – 25 years

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### NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS cont.

**Can You Ring a Bell?** Help the local community through the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign by ringing a bell for two-hour time slots at nearby commercial locations. Call Steve Clark at 610-562-3576 or for more info call me. – Thos Powell

**Collecting Metal:** I take scrap metal and old car batteries. I also want vehicles. I'm interested in cars and trucks in any condition from scrap or not passing inspection to good shape. If you're thinking of selling or trading it in, give me a call and we'll see what we can work out. I often have folks call me looking for a vehicle. Metal can be dropped off at my shop, though call first please. Thanks – Seth King

### A BIT MORE

Sons of men, behold from far,  
Hail the long-expected star;  
Jacob's star that gilds the night,  
Guides bewildered nature right.

There behold the Day-spring rise,  
Pouring light upon your eyes:  
See it chase the shades away,  
Shining into perfect day.

Mild it shines on all beneath,  
Piercing through the shades of death;  
Scattering error's wide-spread night,  
Kindling darkness into light.

– Charles Wesley

Nations all, remote and near,  
Haste to see your God appear;  
Haste, for Him your hearts prepare,  
Meet Him manifested there.