

St. John's Lutheran Church

Announcements

December 8, 2024



In Our Prayers This Week

Our members and friends who are sick and in need of healing and comfort: Lynn Slauson, Pam Linton (daughter of LaVerne & Arlene Bagne), Barb Grambart, Judie Berreau, Ryan & Toya Fish, Renaye Day, Mandy (Schmidt) Berndt, Elisabeth Lieske, Justin Brynjulfson, Ilene Shepherd, Alexis Brockberg, Thea Mazurowski (wife of Kevin), Darlean Goskey, Caroline Schaefer, Sarah and baby Luke Hennen

Our homebound members: John Barrett, Rick Bymark, Lorryne Conley, Sue Erickson, Rev. David Fechner, Wes Grambart, Ron Koehler, Mark Pruhs, Amy Schalo, Ilene Shepherd, and Robert Stashenko

All those serving in our Armed Forces: Agena Christophersen (Germany), Lucas Kiesow (Oklahoma), Kevin Mazurowski (Arizona), Nathan Mazurowski (Arizona), Isak Preus (California), Brian Pruhs (Missouri), Joseph Radintz (home), and Danny Schilling (home)

All expecting families and their unborn children, especially Sam and Victoria Kulberg; Cory and Daphne Olson; and Evan and Amelia Lane

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD for baby Luke Christopher, born to new members Kyler & Sarah Hennen, and pray for the health and recovery of both mother and baby after an emergency delivery.

Praying for our church & school: This week we pray for all those who oversee our technology operations, for our business manager, Stephanie Parris, and for our first grade teacher, Megan Basham.

This week the congregations in our circuit are praying for all retired pastors of our circuit still actively serving God's people.

From the Pastors

Sunday Bible Study Join us in between services as we now rewind to the beginning of Matthew's Gospel to study the Birth of Jesus, the visit of the Magi, King Herod's sinister plot, the Baptism of Jesus and His temptation in the wilderness.

- Today: Matthew 1:18-25 The Birth of Jesus from Joseph's Perspective
- Next Week: Mattew 2:1-12 The Visit of the Magi

Tuesday Bible Study meets weekly at 9am in the auxiliary room.

- Dec. 10 Psalm 85 Praising God's Steadfast Love and Faithfulness

To prepare for next Sunday, we encourage you to follow Issues, Etc. (especially Pastor Will Weedon's "Looking Forward to Sunday Morning [the 1-Year Lectionary]") on your podcasting app or via their website.

Attendance Last Week

- Wednesday, Nov. 27 59 attended
- Thursday, Nov. 28 88 attended
- Sunday, Dec. 1 249 attended; 187 communed
- Wednesday, Dec. 4 73 attended

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED to CROSS during our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Our donations totaling 435 lbs. of food will help to feed many needy families. God bless you for your generosity.

DEAR ST. JOHN'S! What a joy it was to visit with you and share about God's mission in Costa Rica. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. My team and I are looking forward to the start of summer club activities here in Parrita. Please join me in praying for the youth who will attend these activities that relationships may be cultivated and that they would know our Lord and Savior. Thank you for being salt and light in the Parrita community and for sharing the message of hope

and salvation with youth. God's peace and blessings to you as you continue to carry out His mission in the places to which He has called you. – Janine Foggia, Mission Partner, Mission of Christ Network.

ST. JOHN'S IS HOSTING A TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE in partnership with the Corcoran Police Dept. now through Dec. 20th. If you'd like to help, you may drop off any new, unwrapped toys in the big cardboard box in the main lobby. Please note, Toys for Tots will not accept realistic looking weapons and gifts with food. If donated, such items will NOT be distributed. Thank you for your support this Christmas season!

CALLING ALL BAKERS! The 7th and 8th graders would greatly appreciate any contributions of baked goods to be included in their upcoming bake sale following each of the Christmas Concerts on Thursday, December 19th. See the flyer in the narthex for more info or speak with Darcie Mathwig.

POINSETTIAS The Altar Guild is providing an opportunity for members of St. John's to purchase a festive poinsettia for the holiday season. The poinsettia will be used to decorate the Church during the Christmas services, and then can be picked-up and enjoyed by you at your home. A Poinsettia order form is available in the narthex on the communion sign-up table, by the announcements, and also on the ledge in front of the mailboxes. Please complete and return the form if you wish to purchase a poinsettia. The **deadline is NEXT Sunday**, December 15. The Altar Guild is also seeking financial donations for the two evergreen trees. If you wish to donate towards the Christmas trees, it would be greatly appreciated.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM is **NEXT SUNDAY**, December 15 at the 10:30 service. If your child does not attend Sunday school but would like to participate in the program please contact Erika Rossow.

YOUTH GROUP SOCIAL is **NEXT SUNDAY**, December 15 from 12:00-2:30pm. Help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season;

snacks/lunch will be provided. We'll enjoy cookie decorating, crafting ornaments, and maybe even singing some Christmas hymns.

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE invites you to decorate Christmas cookies following the 10:30am Divine Service **NEXT SUNDAY**, December 15th. Please join us in the fellowship hall for cookie decorating fun, appetizers, coffee, and lemonade. If you wish to bring a dish to share, please text Jamie Peterson.

YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER Do you have work around your house that you need help with this winter?? If so, the youth would be happy to help you!! We have no set prices; we just ask for a free will donation that will go toward their trip to the LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July of 2025. If interested, please contact Jayme Kruse or the church office and we'll assign some youth to help as well as schedule a day/time to do so.

ULC WOMEN'S RETREAT Looking for the perfect gift for your spouse? Mark your calendars for the ULC Women's retreat from August 8-9 at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN. The cost will be \$175, and the speaker will be the Rev. Bruce Timm (father of our Kantor Katie Moss). More information can be found on the ULC website.

Finances & Giving

Financial Year to Date Update (July 1, 2024 – December 2, 2024)

- Year To Date **budgeted** operating revenue: **\$843,949**
- Year To Date **actual** operating revenue: **\$879,609**
- Year To Date revenue is favorable **\$35,660** over budget

Ways to Give

- Online at www.stjohnscorcoran.churchcenter.com/giving
- Download the "Church Center" in your app store
 - Add St. John's as your church to give
 - Track your pledges, giving and more!

Questions regarding church financials should be directed to our business manager, Stephanie.Parris@stjlutheran.org or any member of the Board of Administration.

Nice to Know

Large print bulletins that include the entire order of service are available. If you would like one placed in your mailbox each week for use, please contact the church office at 763-420-2426.

Large print Portals of Prayer are available in limited numbers. Please speak with an usher if you would like one.

The Lutheran Hour can be found this week at the following: 6:00am WCCO 830 AM, 7:30am WWJO 98.1 FM 9:30am KRWC AM Buffalo

Planning to stop in? Please call first (763-420-2426) as we would appreciate notice of your arrival (this helps us better coordinate and accommodate your visit). Office hours are 7:30am-3:30pm Mon.-Fri.

Bulletin announcements must be received by Wednesday at noon each week to be considered for inclusion. Announcements may be emailed to Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org.

A happy birthday is wished to those celebrating this week!

- **Today:**
- **Monday:**
- **Tuesday:** Nathan Eversman, Amanda Pulju, Erika Rossow
- **Wednesday:**
- **Thursday:** Kailey Ludwig, Lowell Stavig
- **Friday:** Sarah Klein, Amy Mazurowski
- **Saturday:** Rick Bymark, Amy Dufault

Dear members,

As the year comes to a close, we invite you to consider supporting St. John’s Lutheran Church & School through one of our impactful giving opportunities. Thank you for your consideration.

St. John’s Lutheran Giving Options

Operating Fund	Gifts & Improvement Fund	School Endowment Fund
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funds all daily operations of Church & Day School Funded by offerings and school tuition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund maintains minimum balance of \$100k as emergency fund All funds over \$100k used towards Wish List items Funded by gifts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributes 4% of account balance annually towards tuition assistance Fund invested in moderate growth investment through Vanguard Funded by gifts

Capital Improvements & Timeline

Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Windows	\$90,000				
Sanctuary Roof		\$95,000			
HVAC Units	\$25,000		\$25,000		\$25,000

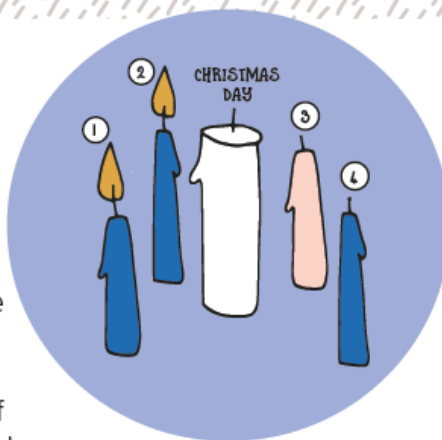
Wish List (abbreviated version)

Item	Amount
New Folding Chairs	\$7,500
Sanctuary Sound & Video Upgrade	TBD

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent. Some Advent wreaths hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary while others are placed on a floor stand. Either way, the Advent wreath is one of the many beautiful things you'll see around the church during Advent.



How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



This Week at St. John's

Sunday	7:30am	8 th Grade Handbell Warm Up
	8:00am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup• 8th grade handbells playing
	9:30am	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual cups
	12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Monday		
Tuesday	9:00am	Adult Bible Study
	5:30pm	Adult Catechism
	6:30pm	PTL Meeting
Wednesday	12:00pm	Sunday Announcement Submissions Due
	6:00pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Advent Service
Thursday	7:00pm	Deacon Meeting
Friday	8:10am	Chapel
Saturday		
Sunday	8:00am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual cups
	9:30am	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup• Sunday school Christmas Program
	11:30am	Fellowship Event – Cookie Decorating <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following 10:30am service
	12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
	12:00pm	Youth Group Event