

St. John's Lutheran Church

Announcements

December 15, 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, Lorraine Conley, Sue Erickson, Rev. David Fechner, Wes Grambart, Ron Koehler, Mark Pruhs, Amy Schalo, Ilene Shepherd, and Robert Stashenko

For those who mourn, for Caroline Schaefer and family at the death of her brother Donald Schaefer

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

Baptized into Christ Thanks be to God for the gift of Holy Baptism, given to our new brother in Christ, Luke Christopher Hennen, at Children's Hospital this past Tuesday. Pastor Moss administered the Sacrament with parents Kyler & Sarah attending. We will have a recognition, enroll sponsors, and have additional prayers and blessings once this little one is safely home from the NICU.

Praying for our church & school: This week we pray for our Board of Education deacons, Russ Reznecheck, Grant Birzniaks, and Gary

Volberding and for all BOE members. We also pray for our middle school teacher and athletic director, Kyle Peterman.

This week the congregations in our circuit are praying for the Confessional Lutheran Foundation (CLEF) and Rev. John Fehrmann.

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 2:1-12 The Visit of the Magi
- Next Week: Matthew 2:13-23 God's Son Fulfills Gods Word, Even the Sad Parts

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

- Dec. 17 Psalm 86 Great is God's Steadfast Love
- Dec. 24 NO CLASS

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

Attendance Last Week

- Sunday, December 8: 295 attended; 204 communed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IS TODAY during the 10:30am service.

JOIN US FOR COOKIE DECORATING AND FUN TODAY following the 10:30am service. Please join us in the fellowship hall for cookie decorating fun, appetizers, coffee, and lemonade.

THE YOUTH GROUP SOCIAL IS TODAY 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.

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE POINSETTIAS TODAY! The poinsettias will be used to decorate the church during the Christmas services and then can be taken home. Order forms are available in the narthex and must be submitted **TODAY**. 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.

A FEW ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TOMORROW at 7:30am to help set up for the school Christmas concert. If you are available to help, please speak with Dr. Moss or e-mail her at katie.moss@stjlutherschool.org.

ST. JOHN'S IS HOSTING A TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE in partnership with the Corcoran Police Dept. **NOW THROUGH THIS FRIDAY, 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!

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL DECEMBER 22 AND 29. Sunday School will resume January 5. If you would like to teach Sunday School, please reach out to Erika Rossow. She would love to have one or two more adults starting in January. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS EVE GOODY BAGS If you would like to donate items or snacks please reach out to Erika Rossow. Items are needed by **NEXT** Sunday, December 22.

THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY RECEPTION Please join us on **Monday, January 6, 2025** following the 7pm Epiphany Divine Service for a special Wine and Cheese Reception to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord and to ring in the New Year! This special event is hosted by the

Fellowship Committee; a special offering will be taken to thank and support the work of our Altar Guild.

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.



GET READY TO BRING THE HEAT AND ENJOY THE SWEETS!! You are invited to the St. John's Annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, January 18th, 2025 from 4pm-6pm in the fellowship hall. Come to EAT, come to COMPETE, or Come with a SWEET treat! ALL families and friends are

welcome!! Please sign up using the QR code or the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

SAVE THE DATE FOR NINJAS UNITED!

Kindergarten – 8th grade children are welcome to join us at Ninjas United in Maple Grove from 5-7pm on Saturday, January 25th. This event is sponsored by the school PTL and is a favorite of everyone! More info to come!



Finances & Giving

Financial Year to Date Update (July 1, 2024 – December 9, 2024)

- Year To Date **budgeted** operating revenue: **\$882,310**
- Year To Date **actual** operating revenue: **\$928,105**
- Year To Date revenue is **favorable** at **\$45,795** 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:** Patty Gardner, Ted Schmidt
- **Monday:** Bob Gerda
- **Tuesday:** Connie Goerke, Wes Grambart, Tyler Philipp
- **Wednesday:** Lisa Carroll, Paisley Hamilton, Jessica Hindermann, Ernest Koehler
- **Thursday:**
- **Friday:** Gina Bussing, Cindy Kmecik, Naomi Ludwig, Tadd Parris
- **Saturday:** Saul Gaffaney

St. John's Lutheran Giving Options

Operating Fund	Gifting & 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	\$2,500
Sanctuary Sound & Video Upgrade	TBD

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Advent of Christ

As you may remember, the word Advent means "coming." During the season of Advent, we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. But that is not the only coming of Jesus that we hear about in the Advent story.

What is the rest of the Advent story?

The Advent of Christ has three parts. God's Word tells us that Jesus not only came to earth as a man at Christmas, but that He comes to be with His church through His Word and Sacraments. Finally, God's Word reminds us that He will return in judgement on the Last Day. If you think about it, there sure are a lot of great things to remember and look forward to during the season of Advent!



Parents:

When Holy Communion is offered, allow your children to attend the altar with you. Remind them that Jesus is truly present here in the Sacrament, and that we will see Him face to face on the Last Day!



This Week at St. John's

Sunday	8:00am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup
	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
Monday		
Tuesday	9:00am	Adult Bible Study
	5:30pm	Adult Catechism
	7:00pm	Board Meetings
Wednesday	12:00pm	Sunday Announcement Submissions Due
	6:00pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Advent Service
Thursday		January Church Newsletter Submissions Due
Friday	8:10am	Chapel
Saturday		
Sunday	7:30am	Men's Choir Warm Up
	8:00am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup• Men's choir singing
	9:30am	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup• Men's choir singing
	12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal