

St. John's Lutheran Church

Announcements

December 22, 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, Lisa Kolander, and Wes Grambart

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

For those who mourn, especially 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 Cory and Daphne Olson and Evan and Amelia Lane

Baptized into Christ All praise and thanks to God for the *new birth* of water and the Holy Spirit, given this day to Oskar Ambrose Kulberg, infant son of Sam & Victoria Kulberg.

Praying for our church & school: This week we pray for Jonathon Skura, Clay Erickson and all of our custodial team, as well as our preschool and ESP director, Tori Kuehne and all ESP aides.

This week the congregations in our circuit are praying for Concordia University, St. Paul.

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: Matt. 2:13-23 God's Son Fulfills Gods Word, Even the Sad Parts
- Next Week: Special Topical Study AND St. John's Wine Exchange

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

- Dec. 24 NO CLASS
- Dec. 31 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

- Wednesday, Dec. 11: 73 attended
- Sunday, December 15: 303 attended; 211 communed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY. 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 **TODAY**.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in your mailbox. Please continue to use your 2024 envelopes through December 31st then switch to your 2025 envelopes beginning January 1st. **This is very important, as your envelope numbers may have changed.** If you did not receive envelopes, but would like to, please contact the business manager, Stephanie Parris.

SR. MINISTRY PROGRAM St. John's is excited to revitalize our Senior Ministry Program focused on creating opportunities for fellowship, care and enrichment events. We are in the planning stage with our goal to start hosting monthly fellowship gatherings that will include lunch and games and planning for future care and enrichment activities. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer or a participant, please contact Chrys Tarvin. Stay tuned for our first get-together!

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.



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.

Finances & Giving

Financial Year to Date Update (July 1, 2024 – December 16, 2024)

- Year To Date **budgeted** operating revenue: **\$920,671**
- Year To Date **actual** operating revenue: **\$948,304**

Year To Date revenue is favorable at **\$27,633** 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:** Evan Orth
- **Monday:** Kyle Christopher
- **Tuesday:** David Dufault, Andrew Heinen
- **Wednesday:** Aiden Ashland, Elormy Ofori
- **Thursday:**
- **Friday:** Charles Moss, Caroline Schaefer
- **Saturday:** Michael Carter, Shannon Dorweiler, Sue Erickson, Mike Gaffer

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

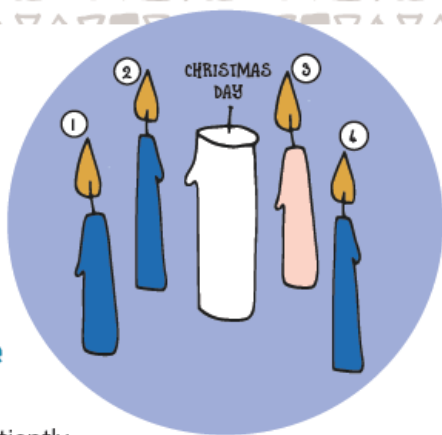
Capital Improvements & Timeline

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	\$2,500
Sanctuary Sound & Video Upgrade	TBD

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What does it mean when four candles have been lit on the Advent wreath?

You've been preparing and patiently waiting for that wonderful day of celebration. When four of the candles on the Advent wreath have been lit, it means that Christmas is almost here! That's right! The day on which we remember the birth of our Savior is right around the corner!

What does this mean to me?

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Today is the last Sunday of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Next week the Church will celebrate Christmas Day, one of the most important days of the whole year. As you can see, Advent has prepared us for the coming of Jesus, our wonderful Savior from sin!



Parents:

Remind your children of the important part that Advent plays in the lives of all Christians. This is the time in the Church Year that prepares us for the coming of our Savior. Be sure to bring your children to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.



This Week at St. John's

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	Adult Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup• Men's choir singing
	12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
	4:00pm	Adult Basketball
6:00pm	Adult Volleyball	
Monday		
Tuesday	3:00pm	Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Men's choir singing
	5:00pm	Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols
	11:00pm	Midnight Divine Service
Wednesday	9:30am	Choir Warm Up
	10:00am	Christmas Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choir singing
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:00am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup
	9:30am	Adult Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common cup
	4:00pm	Adult Basketball
	6:00pm	Adult Volleyball