

# St. John's Lutheran Church

## Announcements

December 29, 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, Lorryayne 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), Danny Schilling (home), Isaac Vogt (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 all members of our Safety Team, for our PTL, and for our principal, Dr. Kristen Skura.

**This week the congregations in our circuit** are praying for Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, IN) and Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, MO).

### *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: Special Topical Study & Wine Exchange

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

- 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. 18: 74 attended
- Sunday, December 22: 291 attended; 201 communed

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in your mailbox. Please continue to use your 2024 envelopes through December 31<sup>st</sup> then switch to your 2025 envelopes beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. **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.

**ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** begins in January. However, we are accepting applications **NOW** for all students **NEW** (P/s-8<sup>th</sup> grade). See the Admissions page on the school website ([stjlutherschool.org](http://stjlutherschool.org)) or scan the QR code for more information, including tuition rates and a link to complete an application.



**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 18<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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](mailto:Stephanie.Parris@stjlutheran.org) or any member of the Board of Administration.

## *Nice to Know*

**Large print bulletins** are available. If you would like one 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 emailed by noon each Wednesday to [Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org](mailto:Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org). to be considered for inclusion.

**A happy birthday** is wished to those celebrating this week!

- **Today:** Ashley Baltes, Emma Pulju
- **Monday:** Larry Anderson
- **Tuesday:** Carol Eastbourne
- **Wednesday:** JoAnn Manthei, Marissa Radintz, Danny Schilling
- **Thursday:** Harvey Chase, Larry Dalchow
- **Friday:** Erika Beck, Noelle Diers
- **Saturday:**

# St. John's Lutheran Giving Options

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

## 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 is The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord?**

The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord is the traditional way of saying Christmas Day. December 25 is one of the most important festival days in the Church Year. This is the day that we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus!

## **Why do we do the things we do at Christmas?**



Many of the things that we do at Christmas have their beginnings with the Romans. Early Christians soon saw some of these things as outward reminders of Christmas and began to use them in their own celebrations. For example, when we give and receive presents, we can remember the greatest gift that has ever been given, our Lord Jesus! After all, today we celebrate Jesus' birthday, and He is the real reason for the season!



**Parents:** What a great way to spend Christmas! Thanks be to God that you have brought your children to hear the wonderful Good News of Jesus today! When you go home, be sure to remind your children that Jesus is the best present we could ever have. He gave up His life so that we might have eternal life. What a great message to share!



***This Week at St. John's***

**Sunday**

8:00am

Divine Service

- Common cup

9:30am

Adult Bible Study

10:30am

Divine Service

- Common cup

4:00pm

Adult Basketball

6:00pm

Adult Volleyball

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

New Year's Day

- Office closed today

**Thursday**

**Friday**

**Saturday**

10:00am

History Committee Meeting

**Sunday**

8:00am

Divine Service

- Individual cups

9:30am

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

10:30am

Divine Service

- Common cup

4:00pm

Adult Basketball

6:00pm

Adult Volleyball