

# NEWS NOTES

December 1, 2019

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314    www.stjohnsgc.org    email sj@stjohnsgc.org

Senior Pastor Seth Jersild (217)-255-2118 ~ sjersild@stjohnsgc.org

Associate Pastor Patti Morlock (740)-405-1548 ~ pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org



Dr. John Schuder, Minister of Music; Dirk Ahlgrim, Saturday Organist  
Susan Abbott Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers  
Nick Grossman & David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders  
Karl Eiginger, Children's Choir Director

## SERVING TODAY

### Communion Assistants:

4:00pm: *Charlie Brown*  
8:15am: *Jo Dimond, Butch Myers*  
11:00am *Dan Yeater, Dora Yates*  
*Caroline Koethke*  
Contemporary: *Beth & Justin Gottshall*  
*Theresa Wahl*

### Readers:

4:00pm: *Sheila Boneske*  
8:15am: *Kathy Myers*  
11:00am:  
Contemporary: *Brooklyn Cress*

### Acolytes:

4:00pm: *Volunteer needed*  
8:15am: *Sarah Mitchell*  
11:00am *Tom & Sally Weisenberger*

### Greeters:

4:00pm: *Volunteer needed*  
8:15am: *Jo Dimond*  
11:00am: MD: *Shirley Blake*  
ND: *Bonnie Swanson*  
Contemporary: *Gottshall Family*

### Altar Guild:

Traditional: *Jim & Connie Schemrich,*  
*Dellno & Betty Lewis, Sarah Schmitz,*  
*Donna Linder*  
Contemporary: *Mistie Clark, Beth*  
*Katterhenrich*



# THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY. WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

*Please take a minute to complete the salmon colored insert in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate, or hand it to an usher as you go up to receive communion. If you have any questions or wish to get involved in any of our many ministries, please note that on the insert and we will follow up with you in the coming week.*

## ☞ PERSONAL NOTES ☞

**HOSPITALIZED:** Please pray for members who are or were in the hospital this past week: Grace Hicks

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Donna Kimmins and family on the death of her mother, Virginia Workman, on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>. *All who mourn are in our prayers.*

**THANK YOU:** Pam Castle would like to thank Bonnie Swanson for all her help with the Veteran's Luncheon. So sorry your name was left off the original thank you list!! Your help was very much appreciated!!

### **DEDICATIONS TO THE GLORY OF GOD:**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** In memory of Jed & Jinny Koehler. Given by Jack and Sharon Koehler and family.

**BULLETINS:** Given by Ike and Shelah Stage

## ☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞

**A SPECIAL SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REMEMBRANCE** will be held today, **December 1<sup>st</sup>** at 2pm. *This is a special worship service set aside for family or friends who have had loved ones pass away this past year.*

### **THANKS TO ALL WHO FILLED OUT A COMMITMENT CARD LAST WEEKEND.**

Your commitments indicate an increase in giving of 5.7%. Those who indicated a dollar amount rather than a percentage amount reflect an increase of over \$5000.00 per year. If you didn't have the time to fill out your commitment there are cards available at the entrances and in the Link. Turn one in so that we can include your commitment also.



**THANKS TO ALL** who entered chili, donated baked goods, served, came to eat and join in the fellowship, and bought our wonderful award-winning desserts. Over \$2000.00 was raised to spread Christ's love around the globe!! We are humbled and honored by your continued support as we reach out to the children

with your loving, extended arms. May God continue to bless the works of your hands and hearts!

*Special congratulations to our chili award winners! 1<sup>st</sup> place: Robert Shea; 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Janette Briggeman; 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Karl Moe*

**HOMEBOUND COMMUNION TEAM:** On the first Sunday of each month this team comes to the altar after all have received the Lord's Supper to receive a Holy Communion kit. The distribution of home communion is an extension of the Lord's Supper and is for those who are unable to be present at the celebration of the congregation. We bring to them the same bread of life and the same cup of blessing that they may be strengthened through their participation in the body of Christ. Let us be mindful and grateful for this ministry.



**COLD WEATHER** has arrived in Central Ohio. Bruce and Karen Whyte have begun their annual coat & blanket collection. The items are taken to a church in Franklinton and given to those in need in that area. Please leave your donations in the box in the church library. Questions? Call

Bruce & Karen Whyte at 614-878-9392. This is a wonderful way to share your blessings.

**ORDER YOUR SCRIP BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AND GIFT GIVING.** Scrip has gift cards for everything from i-tunes, to gas cards, to the major stores, to all of the favorite restaurants. Obtain an order form from the youth office door (top slot) or on the brochure rack in the link area. Return scrip forms and payment to the church office or to Laurie. **Scrip orders are placed on the first TUESDAY of the month and orders arrive within a week.** *Talk to Pam Wittenberg how you can order on-line, enjoy special offers, and re-load your SCRIP cards! ☺*

**SHOP FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR GIFT LIST** this holiday at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon donates to St Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church. Talk to Gary about how you can do this!



**NEXT SUNDAY IS YOUR LAST CHANCE** to bless our neighbors via the Mitten Trees in the North Entrance and the Link! New mittens, gloves, warm hats, earmuffs, scarves and socks for all ages can be left on the trees through December 8th. The items will be taken to the LSS Champion Food Pantry, where they will be distributed to anyone in need. Please contact Ellen Previts with any questions at 614-851-8665. Thank you

for helping our neighbors stay warm!



**COOL RIDES FOR AREA CHILDREN** - This year we would like to invite you to take part in the annual St. John's Bike Project. In early December, we will be delivering 30 bikes and helmets to needy children in Central Ohio to make their

Christmas great! Give your gift by picking up an envelope at one of the church entrances. Then, fill it with the designated amount in cash or check made out to St. John's. Finally, drop the envelope at the offering plate or return it to the youth office by December 7<sup>th</sup>. You may sponsor a quarter, half, or full bike, or a helmet. Questions: Contact Arica Dougherty, Julia Patterson, or Diana Imbrock.

**Thank you for making an area child's Christmas a little brighter!**



**ADOPT-A-FAMILY DRIVE** - In the hopes of helping to make the holidays a little brighter for some of our fellow members who may be struggling financially, we will be accepting monetary donations during the month of December for our annual holiday Adopt-A-Family drive. Envelopes will be

available throughout the church and in the church office. If you or anyone you know of within the congregation would like to be considered for Adopt-A-Family funds, please note that on the salmon insert. The names are kept completely confidential.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020** are available now in the Overflow. Since the envelopes are dated, please wait until January to begin using them. If you do not see a box with your name, please sign on the sheet provided and a box will be prepared for you to pick up the following week.

Prefer to give electronically? You can do this through our website: [www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org), or the GivePlus app on your mobile phone.

**THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE EAGLE NEWSLETTER** is available on our website. Go to [www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org).

**FAITH MISSION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** on Thursday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are able to help with serving a meal to the homeless on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, please contact Mike Esposito at [mesposito@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:mesposito@stjohnsgc.org), or call 614-875-2314.



**Support our youth!** ☺

*We have been unable to sell enough Coke products in a timely manner to maintain our Coke machine. We will be removing the machine soon. Please continue to support the Youth by frequenting the Pepsi machine in the Family Life Center. Thank you!*

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL** - The North American Lutheran Church presents, *Blessed Is He Who Comes*, an Advent devotional booklet for 2019. This year's booklet, prepared by the Rev. Dr. David Wendel, NALC assistant to the bishop for ministry and ecumenism, is based on the daily Scripture passages from the *Reading the Word of God* calendar. *Reading the Word of God* is a three-year Bible reading calendar prepared in 2018 by the NALC, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC).

There are three ways to access the devotional:

1. Download a PDF copy: Color or Black & White
2. NALC Walk of Faith App: Download via App Store or Google Play
3. Facebook Messenger: Subscribe for a daily message

For details on how to access *Blessed Is He Who Comes*, visit [thenalc.org/advent](http://thenalc.org/advent).

## ❧ UPCOMING EVENTS ❧



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS** in the local area will be Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 2pm. We will meet at church, pick a route, car-pool, go spread joy, and come back for hot chocolate and treats! It's that easy. Being able to carry a tune is not a pre-requisite. ☺ We also need people who can drive, smile, hug, and spread Christmas cheer! All ages are invited! **If you can drive or have a place you'd like us to carol to, please talk to Laurie Pecuch or email her at [lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org).**

**FUNDRAISER AT RAISING CANES!** Please support our mission trip teams by dining at Raising Canes on Stringtown Road on Tuesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Flyers will be in the bulletins and at the church entrances.

**CITY OF GROVE CITY** Christmas Celebration will be Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10am - 8pm. The parade will begin at 6:30pm and travel south on Columbus St. from Wilbur St to Broadway – going right by St. John's. Please be aware of street closings for this event.

**CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP DINNER FOR SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIPPERS: DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

All members and visitors who regularly attend the Saturday worship service are invited to enjoy a Christmas Fellowship Dinner in the Overflow Room immediately following worship on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> (at about 5:00 p.m.). Pastor Seth will be cooking the main courses, and drinks will be provided, but if you could bring a side dish or a dessert, that would be great! Please indicate on the salmon bulletin insert whether you will be attending the dinner, or call the church office and let us know (614) 875-2314. Come and enjoy the fellowship and good food as we prepare to celebrate Christmas!



**CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE!** On Saturday, December 14 from 9 a.m. – Noon in rooms 103-104, we will be holding our annual Christmas Cookie, Fudge, Buckeyes, and Peanut Brittle Sale. We are asking for **homemade items only**. Again this year, you will be able to choose your cookies for your plates or we will have prepackaged plates if you prefer. Baked goods can be dropped off by 8:30 a.m. on Friday, December 13 in the Family Life Center Kitchen. If you are available either Friday or Saturday to help, please mark the salmon insert in the bulletin or you can call Sue Sutton, 614-539-9544 or Suzie Brace, 614-871-3201. **Proceeds from our sale will go to the Kitchen Fund.**



**THE BEACONS AND QUILTERS' CHRISTMAS QUILT SALE** will be Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 9AM-noon and Sunday, December 15, 2019 after the church services. The sale will be in the Link. The money raised will be given to church related activities. The quilt sale will be held at the same time as the Christmas cookie sale on Saturday and Sunday. Winter is coming! Lutheran quilts keep you warm! Thank you for helping with the ministry of Beacons and Quilters

**OWLS EVENT – DECEMBER 20, 2019** - The Older Wiser LutheranS (OWLS) invite you to join them and enjoy the fellowship of your friends. You are guaranteed to laugh a lot, make new friends and catch up with your wiser friends!! No age requirement!

St. John's members, Sally and Tom Weisenberger, will be entertaining us for our Christmas meeting which promises to be a lot of fun. Come and find out what they mean by "Pay It Forward"!! HMMMM. The planning committee has planned a few surprises too and we hope you join us.

Please arrive around 11:15 am so we can start our meeting promptly at 11:30 am. Bring a covered dish to share – fried chicken and meatloaf and drinks will be provided. Reservations are a must for this meeting. Please use the salmon insert to make your reservation or call the church office. If you make a reservation and your plans change (even the morning of the event) please call either Bonnie Swanson (614-562-8002) or the church office (614-875-2314)

*Members may pick up their altar flowers on the table outside the Sanctuary doors in the North Entrance unless other arrangements have been made with the Altar Guild.*

## ❧ FINANCIAL NEWS ❧

*“Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 5:20*

	OFFERINGS	NEEDED
	<u>11/24/2019</u>	<u>EACH WEEK</u>
Current Fund (Exp & Salaries)	\$10,716.08	\$11,380.90
Mission Support Fund	842.85	757.52
Building & Maintenance Fund	1,738.61	2,366.82
Renovations Debt Payment	458.00	700.00
Balance on debt is \$52,251.57		
Worship Attendance:	389	



## ❧ SUNDAY SCHOOL ❧

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS:** Small Group Study w/Pastor Seth-Rm 001 / Small Group Study w/Pastor Patti-Library / “Acts” w/Steve Johnston-Chapel / “Wrecked and Redeemed” by Benji Kelly w/Karl Moe-Rm 102 / “Finding Lasting Joy in a World of Comparison, Disappointment, and Unmet Expectations” by Max Lucado - Sherry Nighbert’s class- Rm 103-4 / **Book of Jude** w/Rick Butsko-Rm 303 / **Community in the Word** w/Nick Grossman and Dave Shrum in Flc.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN:** Grades 1 through 12 are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor / Sunday School Office is in Room 205 / Nursery through Kindergarten are in the basement.

# ∞ CALENDAR ∞

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1**

- 8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:45am Men's Chorale (Chr)
- 11:00am Contemporary Worship (Flc)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 11:15am Children's Church (103-4)
- 2:00pm Service of Comfort and Remembrance (Sanc, Fh)
- 5:00pm Adult Basketball (Flc)
- 5:00pm BSA 392 Leaders (101)

## **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2**

- 9:00am BSF Leaders (103-4)
- 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
- 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle (103-4)
- 7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (204)
- 7:00pm Nar-Anon (Fh)
- 7:00pm Puppets (Flc)

## **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3**

### *Scrip Order Deadline*

- 9:00am Refit Exercise Group (Flc)
- 9:00am Quilters (103-4)
- 10:00am Small Group (204)
- 12:30pm OWLS Planning (Lib)
- 2:00pm Small Group (102)
- 6:00pm Cub Scouts (102, 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- 6:00pm Daisy Troop (Fh SS)
- 7:00pm SW Historical Soc. (103-4)
- 7:00pm BSA 392 (Flc)
- 7:30pm Al-Anon (Ovf, 204)

## **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4**

- 9:00am BSF (entire facility)
- 6:15pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
- 6:30pm Small Group (101-2)
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir (Sanc)

## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**

- 7:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
- 8:00am Small Group (Lib)
- 10:00am Homeschoolers (Fh)
- 12:30pm Homeschool Drama (Flc)
- 1:00pm Small Group (102)
- 5:00pm Children's Choir (Sanc)
- 6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Chr)
- 6:45pm Small Group (Lib)
- 7:00pm Dartball (Flc)
- 7:00pm Cont. Worship Reh.

## **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

- 7:00am Small Group (Lib)
- 9:30am Bulletin Team (Lib)
- 10:00am SE Ohio Ministerium (103-4)
- 8:30pm AA Mtg (Fh)

## **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

- Bike Project – Flc
- 10:00am Caregiving Class (103-4)
- 4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)\
- 7:00pm A.A Serenity Seekers (103-4)

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

- 8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:45am Men's Chorale (Chr)
- 11:00am Contemporary Worship (Flc)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 11:15am Children's Church (103-4)
- 12:00pm Private Event (Flc)
- 2:00pm Christmas Caroling
- 5:00pm Adult Basketball (Flc)