



The Eagle

www.stjohnsgc.org

January 2021

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio
614/875-2314



Epiphany

(ɪˈpɪfəni)

(noun) A moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation.

Dear Disciples of Jesus,

Happy New Year! As you read this, the season of Christmas will soon be ending, and the season of Epiphany will have begun.

An Epiphany is a revelation, an ah-ha, an awakening to something we were unable or blind to see before, especially in matters of the Divine. In our everyday world, we use epiphany to refer to a time when everything seems to come together. As persons centered in Christ, Epiphany is that day we celebrate when it was revealed that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

Remember those three magi who come bearing gifts, following a star of illumination to worship the newborn King? They are an interesting lot, aren't they? They are the first people in Matthew's Gospel to come and worship Jesus. This is interesting, as most likely these wise guys, these star gazers, were probably from another religious persuasion altogether. Yet they came to worship him.

They also came to bring him gifts. Gifts, which at first glance don't seem to make much sense for this humble family, but when you consider the fact that they have to flee for their very lives, gifts which in the end, may very well allow them to live and survive on the run for quite some time. And so, the Kingdom of this new-born, which is threatened to be destroyed by Herod, is given a solid beginning by these generous men, and lives on.

I have observed in this family of faith, many generous wise people who have had their own ah-ha moments, find ways to give of their own time and resources. And the Kingdom of God lives on.

I have watched over these last several years people's gifts unfold in a myriad of ways even they find hard to believe, as they are stretched beyond their comfort zones to try new ways to proclaim the Good News of God's gracious Word. And the kingdom of God lives on.

My brothers and sisters, I rejoice with and for you. YOU are such a blessing. Continue in the year 2021 to challenge yourselves to outdo one another in Kingdom Living. That it may live on! For His Glory!

Looking forward in Faith,
Pastor Patti

P.S. Thank you, for the many, generous gifts you have showered on me and my family during the Christmas season and throughout the year. What a blessing you are!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Seth Jersild, Senior Pastor sjersild@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 217-255-2118
Patricia A. Morlock, Assoc. Pastor pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 740-405-1548
Dirk Ahlgrim, Sat. Night Organist	614-875-2314
Tim Allman, Sunday School Superintendent	614-875-2314
Elaine Bennett, Dir. of Lay Ministries elaine.bennett@stjohnsgc.org	614-446-0148
Michael Esposito, Business Manager mesposito@stjohnsgc.org	614- 875-2314
Karl Eiginger, Children's Choir Director	614-875-2314
Nick Grossman, Contemporary Worship Leader	614-875-2314
Diana Imbrock, Youth Director grades 7-12 dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org	614-271-5775
Doug Jones, Custodian	614-875-2314
Susan Abbott Locey, Bell Choir Director	614-208-8215
Janice Miller, Recorder jmiller@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Gary Pecuch, Youth Min. Coord./Confirmation gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	614-620-2659
Laurie Pecuch, Youth Director grades K-12 lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	614-620-2669
John Schuder, Minister of Music jfs4wd@sbcglobal.net	614-254-3310
David Shrum, Contemporary Music Leader	614-875-2314
Karen Whyte, Librarian barnowl@iwaynet.net	614-878-9392

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers: Neva Warren, President; Kevin Stener-son, Vice President; Melissa Butsko, Secretary; Dan Yeater, Treasurer.

Members-At-Large: Debbie Abbitt, Fred Previts, Aaron Clark, Cindy Henricksen, Warren Althoff, Richard Werner.

Church Office hours are Monday through Friday,
8am to 4pm.

**The deadline for the FEBRUARY Eagle
is January 10th.**

Email announcements & articles to
sj@stjohnsgc.org or leave a handwritten copy in
the church office.

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Saturday at 4pm

Sunday at 8:15am and 11am

Contemporary-Sunday at 11am
(Social Distancing will be practiced and face coverings are required.)

**Drive-through communion will be held from
12:00-12:15pm**

ANNUAL MEETING

We are planning to hold our annual congregational meeting virtually on January 31st. Watch the bulletin and social media for details closer to that date.

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:

JANUARY 24—FEBRUARY 21

Pastor Seth will be leading a 5-session Bible discussion on **1 John**, starting on Sunday, January 24th. Class will meet in the Family Life Center at 6:30 on Sunday nights. We'll be wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing. All are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship and good discussion!



Our annual coat collection has begun! A box will be in the church library for your donations. Please consider donating coats, scarves, gloves and blankets. We will take these to a church-affiliated men's and a women's shelter. Thank you for sharing your Christian beliefs by providing for the less fortunate.

Due to the increase in Covid-19 infection rates, the OWLS will not meet in January. Watch the bulletins for upcoming meetings and in the meantime—wear your mask, wash your hands, and stay safe!



OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

The family and friends of Cheryl Mills who died on Nov. 26th.
The family and friends of Ruth "Peachy" Washburn who died on Dec. 7th.
Cory Westerfeld and Kaleigh Shrum whose grandfather, Henry Youse, died on Dec. 8th.
The family and friends of David Mauch who died on Dec. 9th. David's memorial service will be held on Jan. 9th at 11am at St. John's.



MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED THROUGH DECEMBER 13, 2020

Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Cheryl Mills** by Dellno and Betty Lewis.
Given in memory of **David Mauch** by Raymond and Karen Bentley.

Current Fund

Given in memory of **Genevieve Sheets** by Ed and Glenda Sheets.

Memorial Fund, Youth

Given in honor of the wedding anniversary of **Brock and Grace Starr** by Holly and Kevin Starr.

College Fund

Given in honor of **Beth Carpenter** by Cynthia Ahlberg.

Bed Brigade

Given in memory of **David Mauch** by Beth Katterhenrich.

Memorial Fund, Youth

Given in memory of **Howard Robert Youse** by Beth Katterhenrich.
Given in memory of **Ruth (Peachy) Washburn** by Beth Katterhenrich

Current Fund, Sunday School

Given in honor of **Carl Kinman's 90th birthday** by Beth Katterhenrich.

NOTES OF THANKS:



Acts 2:25-26, "David said about him: 'I saw the Lord always before me, because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken'." St. John's Church: Thank you so much for all your prayers, love, and support for me during my surgery and time of healing. The meals, cards, and monetary donations have helped to get my family and I through this crazy time! We are so blessed to have a church family that cares so deeply about us! Thanks again for everything! With love, Megan Jenkins, Ava, Eli, and Doug Knisely.

"Rita and I would like to extend our sincere thank you for all the cards and words of sympathy at the passing of my father, Edward Lang. Even though dad wanted us to know he was ready to move on, we both were grieved knowing that our last parent had passed. He was always supportive of our relationship and goals. I will miss our long talks and his wisdom. Your kind words helped with our grieving and celebrating the passing of "dad". Sincerely, Tom and Rita Lang."

A special thank-you to Mel Penrod who built the Advent Wreath that is located on the front lawn. It is a beautiful, meaningful addition to our Christmas decorations and outreach to the community. Thanks Mel!

"Thank you all so much for helping with the Mitten Trees! We've collected close to 400 items, and they have gone to the LSS Food Pantry where they will be passed out to families in need. I am very thankful for the chance to run this project again and to have a church family that is so willing to help our neighbors. Thank you all for your help." ~Ellen Previts

Thank you to everyone who made donations to the Bike Project! We were able to purchase and assemble 25 bikes and helmets. Special thank you to Butch Myers and Dan Allman for helping deliver the bikes and Diana Imbrock for ordering the bikes.

Also, thank you to those who helped assemble bikes-Tim Allman Family, Butsko Family, Little Family, Butch Myers, Paul Patterson, Jeff & Tammy Stenerson, Turner Family, Wahl Family, Wanner Family & White Family. I really enjoyed helping with the service project. Thank you! Dylan Allman

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES!

We have a variety of ways to keep us all connected and growing in faith! Talk to Laurie, Diana, or Gary! If you have questions about any of the materials, please feel free to connect with us!

- **A Family Faith Box** is a box full of fun & faith for the entire family, geared towards ages 5 through 12 but can be adapted for all ages.
- **Individual Sunday School Lessons** (Age 3 through 6th Grade) For more info about Sunday School, connect with our Sunday School Superintendent Tim Allman at tim.allman110@gmail.com.
- **Confirmation Sunday School and High School Sunday School** meet virtually on Sunday mornings, 9:30—10:30am.
- **Youth Group Materials** for Adventure Club (ages 5—4th grade), Faith Trek (grades 5—6), Explorers (grades 7—8), and Energizers (grades 9—12) have been distributed with the January materials. Virtual meeting id numbers and passwords have been given to each student, along with any materials needed for each virtual meeting. If you can't attend the virtual meeting each week, that's ok. Join us when you can!
- **HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY** is on Sundays, 1:30—2:30pm. Talk to Diana Imbrock for study materials and GoToMeeting ID number.

If you did not receive materials but would like to be on our list, talk to Laurie Pecuch at 614-875-2314 or lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

CATECHISM

Sunday morning Trot through the Old Testament is happening via virtual meeting. Gary sends out a weekly email to parents. We're learning a lot together!

UPDATE: January 10th is the Holy Communion Learning Event for first year students with Pastor Patti. January 17th is the Lord's Prayer Learning Event for second year students with Pastor Seth. See your weekly email from Gary for details or connect with him at gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

SCRIP GIFT CARDS

We place orders for gift cards the first Tuesday of the month. Please use the form on the youth office door or just give Laurie or Gary a call at 614-875-2314. Within a week ordered gift cards are back to us and in your hands.

Want to order on-line and/or put more monies on an existing SCRIP card? Please talk to Pam Wittenberg or Gary Pecuch. Anytime you order on-line, please let us know, as we need to release your order. You can email Gary at gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org. *Thanks for your support!*

SCRIP IS HERE!!!

Do you shop at any of retailers?



Transformation Zone July 11-16, 2021

If you are a high-schooler and interested in serving Jesus, helping area neighbors, and being transformed, have we got a camp for you! Transformation Zone! The cost is only \$125.00 for the week and space is limited. If you are interested, contact Diana Imbrock for more information or give her your \$50.00 deposit to hold your spot. Hurry! Don't be left out!



FAMILY/PARENT RESOURCE

We have discovered a Christian resource for families to help them navigate these challenging times. The resource is called AXIS. It includes parent guides, conversation kits, a culture translator, family reboots, and educational events (summits and 10-day teen talks).

If you're a parent, or grandparent, or an adult in a young person's faith web and you would like to know more about AXIS, please contact Diana, Laurie, or Gary.

We're purchasing an all-church access pass and then launching the program in January. We just need your e-mail address to get these worthwhile resources into your hands.

We will also be creating a facebook page just for parents, grandparents, and caring adults to discuss the resources and to encourage each other in raising our youth in today's world.

There is also an opportunity to get personal access to all the resources that AXIS provides so you can dig into the topics that most interest you right now. Again, contact us! We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you for continuing to pray for and support Missions!

We are hoping that we will find ourselves back on the Mexico Mission Field with our precious children the summer of 2021.

If you have a heart for the children of Mexico and sharing the Good News with our brothers and sisters in Christ, come join the 2021 Mexico Mission Family!

Mission dates are July 23rd through August 2nd, 2021.

Contact Diana Imbrock with questions or to sign up.



BEACONS AND QUILTERS NEWS

We send a big thank you to all who helped with the 100 Christmas bags for the children who visit with their families to the Champion LSS Food Pantry.

We give our thanks to you for donating crayons, Halloween candy, and small stuffed toys to add to the Christmas bags. A big thanks to so many of you for donating bags of candies. We had two tables full of candy. We were thankful for those who came to help fill the bags. The Christmas bags were filled with Christian love and a big touch of sweetening power.

We thank Grove City Meijer, Grove City Family Dentistry and Thrivent for their donations. Their donations helped to fill the bags and the mitten trees.

Our smaller-than-usual 2020 treasury will be divided among to church ministries such as Adopt-A-Family, LSS and Grove City food pantries, and other church-related activities.

Remember that Faith Mission, Choices, and Nancy's Place accept only new clothing. It takes much manpower to sort, check for bedbugs, and find storage space for the volume of used clothing they would receive. They do accept used towels and children's disposable diapers, though. Please donate your used clothing to a charity of your choice. The Beacons no longer take used clothing to Faith Mission.

Usually, the Quilters sell the quilts at the Christmas Quilt Sale. We donate the unsold quilts to Franklin County Children Services and the Bed Brigade. If you want to make a quilt at home for either of these groups, we can furnish the material, supplies and a bit of encouragement. The easiest quilt to make is a one-color-themed quilt composed of six inch or larger blocks that is tied with crochet thread instead of hand quilted. The Quilters have boxes of material divided into the colors to make the selection easier. Call the church to set up a visit.

Some day when this pandemic is over, we would like for you to come and check out the Beacons and Quilters. The Beacons and Quilters meet when Franklin County is yellow or orange on the covid map. If you don't want to come weekly, drop in occasionally, maybe once a month. You may visit for just an hour and then go on your way. If you want to visit longer, bring your lunch and stay for a couple of hours. You don't have to commit to coming every Tuesday. We have other activities that do not involve working with fabric. We do stamps and cards any Tuesday. A visit is not a commitment. The Quilters meet every Tuesday in room 103-104 from 9am-2pm. Beacons meet with the Quilters on the third Tuesday of each month.

The Beacons and Quilters wish to thank everyone for your donations and prayerful support. Our ministry needs you. Your donations make our ministry possible. We wish you all a Blessed 2021.



BLAKE LANG confirmed his faith on September 27, 2020. Each student was asked to create a faith tri-fold. Below you'll see some excerpts of what Blake wrote. *May God richly bless Blake in his life with Christ, as he continues to hope and trust in Him. Amen!*

My favorite bible story has to be the story of Job. Job was an extremely wealthy man who had many kids and animals. One day Satan decided to accuse Job of only believing in God because he was fortunate and happy. Satan tried God by saying if God took away the things he loved, Job would turn against God. God in return said, "do whatever you want but don't hurt him physically." Satan then killed off all of Job's animals, servants, and even Job's only children. This was only the start though, because eventually Satan would go on to physically hurt Job. Job was covered with sore boils from the sole of his foot to his crown. Job would then scrape off the boils with a pot shard. All Job did was endured the pain and prayed to the Lord. My favorite verse comes from Job 1:20-22, "Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship. He said, 'I came naked from my mother's womb, and I will be naked when I leave. The Lord gave me what I had, and the Lord has taken it away. Praise the name of the Lord!'" The best part about this bible verse is even through the pain and grief he stays loyal to the Lord. In fact he doesn't even sin by blaming this on God, he just took all the events as a champ and loved the Lord. This teaches me that no matter how bad a situation gets, look towards the Lord for comfort for he will provide.

(God Sighting) On a December afternoon after school in 2017, I was thinking about how I would spend my Christmas break. Then I got a text from my grandma reading, "I have cancer." The text hit like a bullet. It caught me so off guard that it felt like my heart literally sunk into my stomach. We soon arrived to go see her, which was surprisingly a scary moment because none of us knew what to expect. I was so scared and nervous over this tragedy of an event. I had more questions than answers. I wondered "Will she survive?" "Will she be in pain?" "Why would God do this?" Luckily though, two years later in 2019 she would beat cancer's butt. But sadly that very same year she would wound up having it in two separate areas. So far though she's doing a tremendous job and I pray that she continues to. Let's hope she beat cancer for a second time. This was just one time God helped me through a very difficult time.

(Favorite Service Project) Two summers ago I went with the confirmation class to a place called Life Care Alliance. It is a foundation set up for "Meals on Wheel", "Meals for Pets", and a café established to serve the less fortunate. The meals served at the café were highly discounted to help those who are in need. My favorite memory was the packaging of dog food for the pets in need. The people in charge of the Life Care Alliance were very dedicated, kind and caring. As mentioned before Life Care Alliance is responsible for "Meals on Wheels". After traveling and experienced the place where "Meals on Wheels" are produced, (I actually delivered for "Meals on Wheels" myself, not once, not twice, but four times), I must say it was the greatest service project I have ever done. I am proud that I got the chance to do it, because the look on the people's faces that I delivered to were amazing. I would recommend Life Care Alliance to others because it gives you nothing but joy seeing you made multiple people's days. Not only are the people in need getting help, but you are also helping the pets in need as well.

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE NEEDS

NEW
and
USED



BIBLES

HOME DEPOT
LOWE'S
WALMART
TARGET



GIFTCARDS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
3220 Columbus Street
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297
614-875-2314

DATED MATERIALS

January 2021

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 10
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297

The Eagle



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Traditional
Saturdays at 4PM
Sundays at 8:15 & 11am
Contemporary
Sundays at 11am
www.stjohnsgc.org