

The Eagle

January 2023

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

Letter from the Associate Pastor

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

(Matthew 2:9-12)

Dearly Beloved by God,

The Christmas season ends on January 6th with the celebration of Epiphany, a day to honor those wise men from the east whose impact on the life of the Holy Family would be far-reaching. There are some lessons from this story which bode well for us to grasp as we enter 2023.

These wise men came from the east, our Scriptures tell us. What a reminder that Jesus is for all people. He was still an infant when this entourage of foreigners came to worship him. Later, as an adult, Jesus would cross boundaries to reach out to Samaritans, Canaanites, all sorts of "outsiders" deemed unworthy of God's attention. No one is worthy of God's favor, because of sin. But Jesus makes people qualified through faith in Him alone. A good question to ask in this New Year – Is there a person or group of people that you've been tempted to "write off" or have considered outside the circle of God's concern?

These wise men made the purpose of their journey clear: "We have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." So many things will call for our attention in this New Year, but nothing is more important than encountering Jesus through Word and Sacrament in weekly worship. The Scriptures tell us that in the wise men's pursuit of Jesus, there will always be distractions, and enemies like King Herod, intent on deceit. Another question to ask in this New Year – What kinds of things threaten to distract you, pull you away from loving and serving Jesus? How might you plan to overcome them?

The wise men's encounter with Jesus changed them. Gold, frankincense and myrrh represented the best of what they had to offer, as they "threw open their treasured chests" to present the Lord with gifts. True worship involves giving all that we have and all that we are. How in this New Year can we grow in generosity? The wise men received supernatural guidance in the form of a dream. What keeps you from acting on the "nudges" that the Holy Spirit gives you as you read God's Word and seek his leading?

Finally, the wise men returned home by "another way". No one can be in Jesus' presence for long and stay the same. In the wise men's case, encountering the Christ Child necessitated a change of direction. That's what repentance is – a turning around in pursuit of God's will and way in your life. What do you need to turn away from this New Year as a result of your encounter with Jesus through His Word? What do you need to turn toward?

See, all of us are like travelers in a caravan of hope, seeking His light in a time of uncertainty. Like King Herod, we are afraid of what the light of His truth might expose in us. This year, as we encounter Jesus in His Word, may our hearts be softened, our minds engaged, our hands open, and our broken spirits healed.

Looking forward in faith, Pastor Patti

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF					
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CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

<u>Officers:</u> Aaron Clark, Council President; Paul Wittenberg, Vice President; Karen Bentley, Secretary; Kathy Myers, Treasurer.

<u>Members-At-Large:</u> Warren Althoff, Wayne Beavers, Shirley Blake, Dave Clark, Doug Cress, Michael Grimm, Gary Smith.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended

to Cheryl Thompson on the passing of her father, **Don Klamfoth**, on November 18, 2022.

to Stephanie Potokar and family for her grandmother, **Joyce Ann Moore**, who passed away on November 18, 2022.

to Steve and Cindy Contizano on the death of Steve's mother, **Bonnie Internoscia**, on November 23, 2022.

to Kathryn Mullins and family for her beloved grandma, **Norma Phelps**, who passed away on November 26, 2022.

to Brad Wahl and family as they grieve the death of his father on December 6, 2022.

to Christine Hank and family for her father, **Robert Wilson**, who passed away on December 7, 2022.

All who grieve are in our thoughts and prayers.

Announcements of birth

Congratulations to **Julia and Nick Kingsbury** on the birth of their daughter, **Elizabeth Rose**, on November 26, 2022. **Elizabeth** is welcomed by proud grandparents, Bob and Janette Briggeman.



Congratulations to **Brianna Overly** on the birth of her son, **Ezariah James Overly**, on December 1, 2022. **Ezariah** is welcomed by the Overly family; big sister Alahni, grandma Deb, Uncle Isaac, and Aunt Haley.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL FOLLOW 11AM WORSHIP SERVICES ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023.

The deadline for the FEBRUARY Eagle is JANUARY 10TH.

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

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



We hope our Christmas bags for the children at LSS Champion and the Grove City Methodist "Purple Door" Church food pantries were a witness to Christian love and understanding. We give our thanks to you for donations for the children. The Christmas bags were filled with Christian love and a big touch of sweetening power-candy.

We thank all those who visited and supported us at the quilt sale. We hope you find the quilts warm and enjoy using them!

Our 2022 treasury will be divided among to church ministries such as Adopt-A-Family, LSS and Grove City food pantries, and other church-related ministries.

If you want to make a quilt at home for a charity, we can furnish the material, supplies and a bit of encouragement at no cost to you. 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.

Don't know what do with those beautiful but-now-in-the-way Christmas cards? Tear off the fronts and give them to the Quilters. After we accumulate a stack of them, we donate the fronts to the Cancer Thrift Store. People buy the card fronts to make Christmas ornaments and use them for other hobbies. Also, don't forget to tear off those used stamps for us. We send them to two veterans' hospitals for rehabilitation activities. Please place your donations in the Quilters' cabinet in the Link.

Come and visit the Quilters! We are a very small group of usually 4-5 each Tuesday. 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. A visit is not a commitment. We have other activities that do not involve working with fabric. We do stamps and cards any Tuesday. **The Quilters meet every Tuesday in room 103-4 from 9am-2pm.**

The 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 2023.



Red Cross

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

St. John's will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Family Life Center on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from 12 noon until 6 pm.

To schedule your appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: StJohnsGC.

OWLS EVENT — JANUARY 20, 2023

The Older Wiser LutheranS (OWLS) are looking forward to kicking off 2023 with a speaker everyone looks forward to and his message. Mayor Ike Stage will be joining our group for lunch as well as giving the group a very interesting update about our hometown. New businesses. New housing projects. Downtown project. Want to know what's going on? Come and find out! It's always a great program.



The OWLS will provide fried chicken for our potluck lunch but we ask you bring a covered dish and join your friends for a delicious lunch and a wonderful program. Please plan to arrive around 11:15am so we can open the meeting at 11:30am. Use the salmon sheet in Sunday's bulletin to make your reservation so the group can plan accordingly. You can also call the office or Bonnie Swanson at 614-562-8002. Hope to see you there!



BIKE PROJECT ASSEMBLY - THANK YOU: We were able to assemble and deliver 25 bikes and helmets to kids in foster care this past week for the Bike Project! A big thank you for everyone who contributed this year! Thank you to those who helped assemble bikes: Tim Allman Family, Althoff Family, Butsko Family, Cress Family, Layla Greer, Khasen Herrick, Dennis Imbrock, Pastor Seth Jerslid, Stephen Katterhenrich Family, Little Family, Paul Patterson, Lakota Raleigh, Skinner Family, Turner Family & Wahl Family. Special thanks to Diana Imbrock for ordering the bikes and to Butch Myers and Dan Allman for helping deliver the bikes!

THE QUILTERS THANK YOU all for your donations of candy, Crayons, Beanie Babies. erasers, glue sticks, pens, small notebooks, and many other items. We met our goal of two tables full of candy. The 100 Christmas bags were filled and taken to the Grove City Methodist and LSS Champion Food Pantry on December 6, 2022. We were able to fill the bags in 1 hour with the gracious help of Vi Davis, Mary Young, Betty Lewis, Jane Stenerson, Linda Vozel. Karen Bentley, Dora Yates, and Linda Chenault. Patricia Marie helped to set out the donations on Monday afternoon. We especially thank Linda Vozel for providing most of the material and sewing the bags and to Kathryn Mullins and her grandmother for helping to string the bags. The Ohio Department of Wildlife added pencils. pins, book markers, and decals for the children. The Quilters were very appreciative of the donations of toothcare items from Grove City Family Dentistry. We could not have done the bags without the congregation's concern and donations. Thank you!

THANKS TO ALL who entered chili, donated baked goods, served, came to eat and join in the fellowship, and bought our wonderful, awardwinning desserts. Over \$2500.00 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!





THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Thank you for your generous gifts and prayers for the children in need around the world! We delivered **146 shoe boxes!** We ask that you continue to pray that God prepares the hearts of His children, that they respond to His love. If you would like to be a Prayer Partner for this ministry, please visit www.samaritanspurse.org/praywithOCC. You can join 27000+ Prayer Partners who pray for Operation Christmas Child year-round.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"I wish to thank Pastors Seth and Patti for their hospital visits. I want to thank my church family for my cards, calls, and all your prayers. Thank you to Jan Wittenberg for bringing Home Communion to me, and Betty Lewis for the pretty Altar Flowers. God bless all of you. Love," ~ Nancy Kinman.

"Thank you for all the get well wishes while I was in the hospital from the pastors, my church family, and the telephone calls checking on me. Prayers are wonderful healing. The Lord is always with me when you need Him. May God bless each of you. Thank you very much," ~ Vi Davis.

"My sincerest gratitude goes out to St. John's pastors and staff, members and friends. Thank you for the flowers, cards, and comforting words regarding the recent death of my most precious grandma, Norma Phelps. She was a warm person with a beautiful heart and soul. She was a wife and widow, mother, grandma, and a great-grandmother of one. She was a school bus driver, a quilter, a great listener and a good friend. She was calm, organized, and clutter-free. She had a great sense of humor, and always had a smile and a wave to every baby in the near vicinity. Thank you for your condolences as she is greatly missed." ~ Kathryn Mullins.





PRAYERS AND PINS—2023 St. John's Bowling Club @ Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl 3224 S High St, Columbus 43207 (614)491-7155

The cost is \$15 per person weekly. If you are not present, you may pay the following week. Proceeds will go to our mission funds.

- 1. Club will bowl at 3:00pm on Sundays from January 8th to March 12th, 10 weeks total.
- 2. Checks should be made out to WWCB.
- 3. We will bowl 2 games each week.
- 4. Teams will consist of 2 players, and substitutions are welcome.

Plan to have a great time! No worries if you are a rookie— It's about having fun!

Contact Dave or Karen Grossman, 614-579-8037, or Jo Dimond, 614-270-3291, jodimond@aol.com.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MEXICO MISSION FUND!

MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN AS OF DECEMBER 11, 2022

Memorial Fund

Given in honor of **Dennis Imbrock** by Rosemary Turnbull. Given in memory of **Eric Stevens** by Bobbi Payne. Given in memory of **Barbara Rawson** by Anne Stallkamp; and Jane Mixer.

Accessibility Project

Given in memory of **Gary Throp** by Richard Rush; and Marilyn Wright.

Given in memory of **Barbara Rawson** by Paul and Mitzie Schemrich.

Given in memory of **Randy Ross** by John and Judy Lechner.

Current Fund

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

College Fund

Given in honor of Beth Carpenter by her sister, Cynthia Ahlberg.

Benevolence Fund, Wycliffe Bible Translators

Given in honor of the Bible translation ministry of Stephen and Rachel Katterhenrich by Beth Katterhenrich.



Thank you for continuing to pray for and support Missions!

We are planning a mission trip to be with our precious children this summer 2023!

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 2023 Mexico Mission Family!

Mission dates are July 21st through July 31st, 2023.
Contact Diana Imbrock with questions or to sign up.

WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Join us for the next meetings
Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 9am
and Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 7pm
in rooms 103-4.



We are happy to teach anyone interested how to knit or crochet. For more information call Glenda Allman at 614-352-5955 or Diana Imbrock at 614-271-5775.



BED BRIGADE has Built and Delivered More Than 600 Beds This Year.

under the umbrella of St John's Lutheran Church in Grove City, Ohio.



We have planted chapters on the north side of Columbus, Greensburg (Akron/ Canton), and Mansfield. We have partnered with other churches, including The Naz, Rock City, Cypress, Peace Methodist, and a half dozen more, as well as local Civic groups to serve our community and our savior, Jesus Christ.

Each person who requests a Bed receives a hand-made Twin XL frame, mattress, sheets, pillow, blanket, an age-appropriate Bible or Bible story, and a stuffed animal. Ladies at church gather to pray for the families and knit a prayer cloth for them that we give when we deliver their Beds.

In the coming year, we hope to expand capacity to Build and Deliver Beds. Despite increasing productivity this year, and decreasing the cost of each Bed, the number of people in need has grown. We currently have more than 200 families on our list; more than 450 people are waiting for Beds. At our current rate, it will take 8 or 9 months to meet this need.

Two weeks ago, we provided Beds for 6 children sleeping on a linoleum floor.

This grandmother didn't expect to have to raise her grandchildren (right), but she gave up her Bed for them and she has been sleeping on her couch. Today, each child has their own safe place to sleep, with warm blankets, a new pillow, and a Bible of their very own.





Here are Adam and Sébastian (left), who are delighted with their new Beds and stuffed bears.

We hope to increase funding and rent our own space to increase capacity.

Interested friends can learn more about our efforts, volunteer, donate, and/or request a Bed at BedBrigadeColumbus.org.

Elizabeth Circle Contact Sherry Nighbert 614-581-1436



Sarah Circle Contact Vi Davis 614-875-2605

Here's a spiritual growth goal: join a Circle of friends!

Joining our Circles is an easy way to make new friends and grow spiritually.

Both Circles have evening meeting times.

Contact the leaders listed above for more information.

SJYM St. John's Youth Ministries

YOUTH GROUPS!

ADVENTURE CLUB (K - grade 4) and FAITH TREK (grades 5 & 6) start again on Thursday, Jan. 5th, 5:45 – 7:15pm. We meet weekly. It's a great evening of faith webbing, games, songs, fun, yummy food, and a special bible point activity. Cost: Suggested donation of \$2. Questions, contact Laurie Pecuch at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org or call her cell number at 614-620-2669.

EXPLORERS (grades 7 – 8) and ENERGIZERS (grades 9 – 12) start again on Wednesday, January 4th, 7 – 8:30pm. We meet weekly. This is a really good time to join us!

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES!

HIGH SCHOOL IQA BIBLE STUDY starts again in January 8th. They meet on Sundays, 1—2pm. Talk to Diana for more details!

High School Youth and Adults! WINTER JAM (various Christian bands) is back in Columbus on Saturday, Jan. 28th at the Schottenstein Arena. To secure your ticket to Winter Jam, give \$20 to Laurie by Sunday, Jan. 8th. Cash or checks made out to "St. John's Lutheran".

PRE-CATECHISM SUNDAY SCHOOL for grades 5 & 6. They meet Sundays, 9:30 – 10:30am with Tim and Christina Allman. It's a great class and helps prepare students for Catechism.

COMING SOON!

- > Souper Bowl Weekend is Feb. 11th and 12th. We collect monies to fight hunger in our local community!
- > Blankets of Love...Watch for details in Sunday's bulletin/Weekly Newsnotes!

AXIS PARENTING RESOURCE: It's a website with parent guides, conversations kits, expert videos, and excellent materials on parenting youth in today's culture. If you'd like to be on our AXIS email list and/or like to have direct membership access to the website, please contact Diana Imbrock. There is also an AXIS resource wall on the second floor, across from the youth office. It's full of insightful Parent Guides with practical tips on parenting.



by ShopWithScrip

For details, contact Laurie at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

ORDERS ARE PLACED THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.

You can also order on-line. Pam Wittenberg can help you!

Connect your KROGER card with the COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM.

Go to https://www.kroger.com/ communityrewards.

Our organization number is EY530.

Shop at Kroger and a percentage comes back to the youth at St. John's!



Link your Amazon order with AmazonSmile and every time you shop, they give.

Our organization is "St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church"

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Sat	7 Private Event 11am Accessibility Team 1pm Trad. Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm	14 Boy Scouts Camp-In Private Event 11am Prayer Shawl Min. 9am Girl Scouts #6300 10am Private Event 10am Trad. Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm	21 Private Event 11am Private Event 11am Trad. Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm	28 WINTER JAM Trad. Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm	
Fi	6 Bulletin Team 10:30am AA 8:30pm	13 Boy Scouts Camp-In Bulletin Team 10:30am AA 8:30pm	20 Bulletin Team 10:30am OWLS 11:30am AA 8:30pm	27 Bulletin Team 10:30am AA 8:30pm	
Thu	5 Promise Keepers 8am Homeschool Acting 3pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	12 Promise Keepers 8am Small Group 1pm HS Acting Class 3pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celeb. Ringers 6:15pm	19 Promise Keepers 8am HS Acting Class 3pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celeb. Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	26 Promise Keepers 8am Eagle Mailing 9am Small Group 1pm HS Acting Class 3pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celeb. Ringers 6:15pm	
Wed	4 Small Group 2pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	11 BSF 9:30am Small Group 2pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	18 BSF 9:30am Small Group 2pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	25 BSF 9:30am Small Group 1pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	
Tue	3 RAISE RIGHT DUE Quilters 9am OWLS Planning 11:30am SW Historical Soc. 7pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm	10 EAGLE DEADLINE Quilters 9am Girl Scouts #6679 6pm Fat Quarter Quilt Guild 6:15pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm	17 Quilters 9am Blue Ribbon 4-H 6:30pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm	Quilters 9am Quilters 9am Red Cross Blood Drive 12pm Girl Scouts #6679 6pm Prayer Shawl Min. 7pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm	31 Quitters 9am Boy Scouts #392 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm
Mon	2 Lunchtime AA 12pm Puppets 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	9 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Puppets 6:30pm Finance Team 7pm Respect Life 7pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	16 BSF Leaders 9:30am (Zoom) Lunchtime AA 12pm Altar Guild Mtg. 1pm Puppets 6:30pm Council 7pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	23 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Puppets 6:30pm Sarah Circle 7pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	30 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm
Sun	1 Happy New Year! No Youth Sunday School Traditional Worship 8:15am Men's Chorale 9:30am Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am Adult Basketball 5:30pm	8 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:30am Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am IQA Bible Study 1pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm	15 Boy Scouts Camp-In Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:30am Small Group 10am Trad. & Cont. Worship 11am IQA Bible Study 1pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm	22 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:30am Small Group 10am Trad. & Cont. Worship 11am IQA Bible Study 1pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm Saddles n Such 4-H 5:30pm	29 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:30am Small Group 10am Trad. & Cont. Worship 11am IQA Bible Study 1pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm

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DATED MATERIALS
January 2023

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The Eagle
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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

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