

NEWS NOTES

December 4, 2022

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314 · www.stjohnsgc.org · secretary@stjohnsgc.org

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

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



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry
Nick Grossman & David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders
Susan Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

☪ SERVING TODAY ☪

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: Holly Starr
8:15am: Jo Dimond
11:00am: Gloria Bullert

Altar Guild

Linda Vozel; Dee Harlor;
Sarah Schmitz; Donna Linder

Readers

4:00pm: Holly Starr
8:15am: Judy Taylor
11:00am: Joan Werner

Acolytes

8:15am: Hunter Thompson
Colton Thompson
11:00am: Merrick Wilson
MacKenzie Norman

Greeters

4:00pm: Mary Campbell
8:15am: Judy Graessle
11:00am MD: Shirley Blake
ND: Linda Diehl

Lessons Today: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12.

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: In memory of my husband and son, Dwight Campbell, Sr. and Dwight Campbell, Jr. Given by Mary and Scott Campbell.

ALTAR FLOWERS: In loving memory of our loved ones who have passed.

BULLETINS: Given by Ike and Shelah Stage.

☞ PERSONAL NEWS ☞

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Please pray for the members who are or were recently in the hospital: Lydia Starr, Barb Armentrout.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Steve and Cindy Contizano on the death of Steve's mother, Bonnie Internoscia, on Nov. 23rd; and to our office administrative assistant, Kathryn Mullins, whose grandmother, Norma Phelps, died on Nov. 26th. Please pray for all who grieve.

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

☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞

WE ARE IN NEED OF USHERS for the Christmas Eve services and Christmas day. **Please mark the salmon sheet if you are able to serve.** We could use a few Greeters on Christmas Day, as well. We always have many visitors and full services so we need all the help we can get to welcome and serve. Thank you!



2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available in the Overflow (room 202). These are dated for 2023, and your box number may be different from last year, so please wait until Jan. 1st to use them. If you do not see a box with your name, please indicate that you would like a box on the notepad provided. We will have a box ready for you to pick up the next weekend.

SNOW TEAM: Hey church! With winter approaching, so is snow removal season. The church parking lot is covered, but we need help with the sidewalks, especially on Monday and Wednesday mornings and weekends. We have also been receiving calls from members of our church family who are unable to shovel their driveways and sidewalks. If you are interested in being a part of the church "Snow Team" please contact Nick Grossman 614-560-3724 or Mike Esposito 614-875-2314.

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM/DINNER THEATER Please plan to join us Sunday, December 11th for a special Christmas Celebration. This year's program will feature **Sunday School Students, and more!** Dinner will be served at 5pm and **the program will begin immediately following dinner.** Please bring a dessert to share when the program ends. All are welcome, so please be sure to invite friends, family, and neighbors! Suggested dinner donations for adults is \$6.00 and \$5.00 for children. We can always use extra hands to set up and clean-up for this event. Please contact Elaine Bennett if you are interested in helping or mark the salmon sheet.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION TEAM: On the first Sunday of each month this team comes 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 so that they may be strengthened through their participation in the body of Christ. Let us be mindful and grateful for this ministry.

EVANS CENTER 'PROJECT HEARTSTRINGS': Bring holiday cheer to homebound seniors! Project Heartstrings serves area homebound seniors who may not have family to purchase gifts for them. Volunteers are needed to wrap the presents collected on Friday, December 9th. Please call the Evans Center at 614-277-1060 to donate your time and gift-wrapping skills. Celebrate the holiday season by helping others!

QUILTERS' CHRISTMAS BAGS: The Quilters' will meet to fill the 100 Christmas Bags on Tuesday, Dec. 6th in the FLC from 9am until noon. Your friendship and help in filling the bags for children whose family visit the food pantries will be greatly appreciated. Come and see the generosity of our congregation. We hope the Christmas Bags will give the children a bit of Christian love and happiness at Christmas time.

THE CHRISTMAS QUILT SALE IS COMING! Now that Thanksgiving is over, we can get serious about Christmas. The Quilters' Christmas Quilt Sale will be **Saturday, December 17th from 9am to noon and Sunday, December 18th** in the Link after each Sunday church service. The sale will take place in the Link. The money raised will go 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 Quilters' ministry.



SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE COMING! Do you love to bake? Do you have a favorite cookie recipe you would love to share? Your talents are needed! **Our Christmas Cookie and Goodie Sale will be on Saturday, December 17th.** This sale will also be open to the community. We will need dozens of cookies and other homemade items. We are asking for **homemade items only**. If you don't want to bake but want to help in another way, please feel free to make a monetary donation to the Kitchen Fund. Any questions, please call Suzie Brace, 614-313-1364 or Sue Sutton, 614-539-9544.

THE BIKE PROJECT HAS BEEN EXTENDED! We will be collecting funds for the **Bike Project until December 18th.** Questions: contact Dylan Allman, dylanallman07@gmail.com, or Diana Imbrock, dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org. Thank you for making a child's Christmas brighter!

WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will hold its next meetings on **Saturday, December 10th at 9am and on Tuesday, December 27th at 7pm in rooms 103-4.** Everyone is welcome. Bring your knitting/crochet materials and any completed shawls to be blessed with prayer. Anyone can learn to knit or crochet with our help! For more info call Glenda at 614-352-5955 or Diana at 614-271-5775.

EAGLE DEADLINE is next Saturday. Please submit your article by noon on **December 10th** for the January newsletter.

OWLS EVENT – DECEMBER 16, 2022: The Older Wiser LutheranS (OWLS) are very happy and excited to be together this year to celebrate the Christmas Season with our friends. Giving to those in need with gifts of money to ease their burden, praying for the sick and their families, lending a helping hand to others who are unable to perform simple tasks and offering a true friendship are what we do as a group. We hope you consider attending our meeting and see for yourself. You might not be too interested in a certain month's program, but you will always enjoy the friendship and Christian love shared among us.

For our December meeting we will be entertained by children from Our Lady of Perpetual Help singing some of their favorite Christmas songs and we will join them to sing a few of ours! Kim Nocero does a wonderful job with the music program at OLPH and she is looking forward to entertaining our group once again.

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. Normally we put a basket on the buffet table for those who wish to help pay for the chicken, but we will be collecting money to donate to a needy family of St. John's. Thanks in advance! Please plan to arrive around 11:15 am so we can open the meeting at 11:30 am. 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!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY/ANGEL TREE 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. We will also be doing the Angel Tree again this year. The Angel Trees, located in the Link and the North Entrance, contain gift items for you to purchase, wrap, and **return to church by Saturday, December 17th**. These gifts are going to children in our congregation who otherwise would not have much of a Christmas. If you or anyone you know of within the congregation would like to be considered for Adopt-A-Family funds, please mark that on the salmon sheet. The names are kept completely confidential.

CHRISTMAS KINDNESS - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH: We will be delivering Adopt-a-Family gifts and spreading some Holiday Cheer to our older members and members who have had a rough year. This includes a poinsettia and a small gift bag to let them know that they are being thought of and prayed for. We plan to let them know ahead of time that someone will be delivering Christmas Kindness to them on the afternoon of December 18th. Everything will be provided and can be picked up from the back of the Family Life Center immediately following the late service on December 18th. **If you are willing to help deliver holiday cheer, mark the salmon sheet!** We hope to deliver to around 40 members/households, so any help is greatly appreciated!

GROVE CITY FOOD PANTRY needs your help! With the holiday season now upon us, food supplies are decreasing while the demand is increasing. Items they desperately need include canned goods, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, Hamburger Helper or Tuna Helper, Manwich, spaghetti sauce and noodles, paper towels and tissues, etc. All food donations may be dropped off in the LSS/Grove City Food Pantry cabinet in the Link.

RESPECT LIFE – BABY CLOTHING DRIVE. To our generous congregation, from the Pregnancy Decision Health Center (PDHC), a pro-life ministry in Columbus:

“With the increase in participation in our parenting classes, we are in great need of clothing and supplies to replenish our Baby Boutique. These items are provided free to moms and dads in our parenting classes. Clothing may be gently used or new. Needed items include winter clothing, sleepers, and onesies for both boys and girls, newborn to 12 months. Much-needed baby supplies include baby bottles, diapers, wipes, baby washcloths and towels. Please bring donations to our location at 665 E. Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus 43229, Suite 120. Or you can order them from our Amazon Wish List!”

Between now and December 31st, Respect Life will collect donated baby items and deliver them to PDHC. Kindly drop off donations in the Link cabinet labeled “Respect Life.” Please contact Lois Moore with any questions via email lmoore2701@yahoo.com or phone 937-768-5409. Thank you!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held on **Tuesday, December 20th** in the Family Life Center from 12pm to 6pm. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2776) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: StJohnsGC.



PRAYERS AND PINS bowling league starts **January 8th, 2023, on Sundays at 3pm.** Cost is \$15 per person, and proceeds will support St. John’s Missions. Contact Jo Dimond to sign up at 614-270-3291 or jodimond@aol.com; or Dave and Karen Grossman at 614-579-8037.

MEXICO MISSIONS TRIP, 2023: 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 any questions or to sign up.



USED EYEGLASSES are being collected for donation to Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers located throughout the world. The used glasses are repaired and distributed to those in need in developing countries. You can donate your used eyeglasses in the drop boxes in the North Entrance and in the second-floor hallway just outside of the library.

SEE A MAINTENANCE CONCERN WITHIN OUR BUILDING? Please fill out a “Church Maintenance Request” form and return it to the church office. Forms are available throughout the building, in the church office, and on the door of the Business Manager’s office, room #205.

SUBMITTING A NEWS NOTES ARTICLE? **Articles are due by 9am each Wednesday.** Please send your article via email, secretary@stjohnsgc.org, or drop it in the church office secure slot.

OFFICE HOURS are **Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm.** Please keep in mind the building may be locked at any time outside of normal office hours.

PRAYER REQUESTS should be turned in by Monday morning. Fill out the prayer request section on the salmon sheet or contact the church office at 614-875-2314. You may also email your prayer request to secretary@stjohnsgc.org. Requests are updated on a weekly basis.

YOUTH NEWS

THERE IS A VISIONARY NOTEBOOK EVENT for middle school youth on Friday, Dec. 30th. Gym opens at 5:30pm. Starts at 6pm. Ends at 9pm. Parents and special guests are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 8:45pm for the blessing of the notebooks. We are recruiting high school leaders. Talk to Laurie if you’re interested. Pizza will be served in the middle of the event. You’ll leave this event knowing you’re intentionally loved and that this love comes from Christ! Eighth grade students bring your Visionary Notebook. Seventh grade students will be given a notebook at the event. It’ll be a fast-paced, meaningful night. Questions? Contact leaders Laurie Pecuch or Megin Cress.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUPS are on break through the month of December, allowing time for our leaders and families to attend holiday school activities and special church events throughout the month. *See you again in January!* 😊

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AND ADULTS! WINTER JAM (various Christian bands) is back in Columbus on Saturday, Jan. 28th at the Schottenstein Arena. We will be pre-ordering tickets. Actual cost is \$40 per ticket, but we are only collecting \$20 for the concert. To secure your ticket to Winter Jam, give your money to Laurie by Sunday, Jan. 8th. Cash or checks made out to “St. John’s Lutheran”. *Details will be given to you closer to the date, but you can expect to meet at church at 2:30pm and be back to church around 11pm-ish. You’ll also need to bring money to buy concessions for dinner.*

RAISE RIGHT (GIFT CARD) ORDERS are being placed this Tuesday, Dec. 6th. Can be used personally or give as gifts! With Raise Right has gift cards to restaurants, retail stores, grocery stores, gas stations, Amazon and more! The youth program receives cash back for every card purchased, at no cost to you! Talk to Pam Wittenberg about how you can also re-load your gift cards online! For other Raise Right questions, see Laurie Pecuch. *Thanks for your support!*

STEWARDSHIP

Attendance November 27: **372**

<u>October 2022</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Operating	\$61,880	\$575,721	\$63,586	\$616,008
Benevolence	\$ 3,789	\$ 39,406	\$ 2,854	\$ 39,751

Accessibility Project

Total Estimated Cost	\$1,300,000
Amount required to begin building	\$ 700,000
Amount pledged/given to Accessibility Project Fund	\$ 700,869
Total Expense through October 2022	\$ 45,395

A SECURE DROP SLOT is located under the staff mailboxes in the hallway near the secretary's office. If you are dropping off a monetary gift or papers with confidential information, please put it through the slot to help ensure security.

How to give to St. John's:

1. During worship services.
2. Mail your offering to the church – 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio 43123.
3. Through your financial institution – they will send a check directly to the church on your behalf.
4. St. John's website – www.stjohnsgc.org – online giving is available through Vanco Services, our partner for more than 20 years. It is secure and safe.
5. Through the Vanco Mobile app available from Apple or Google – again a partnership between the church and Vanco Services. Set up a profile one time, and set up a recurring gift, or give when you want to. Once your profile is set up, giving is a one-touch process.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIVING
TO ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES!**

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Adult Faith Discussion, FH Rm 001 / Hebrews, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rms 301, 303.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2-3 years old, Rm 003 / 4-5 years old, Pre-K and Kindergarten, Rm 009 / Grades 1 and 2, Rm 204 / Grades 3 and 4, Rm 307 / Grades 5 and 6, Rm 306 / Grades 7 and 8, Rms 302 and 304 / High School, Rm 311.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30am Sunday School
9:30am Men's Chorale (Choir Room)
10:00am Small Group (Lib)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
12:00pm 2nd Year Confirmation
Advance (103-4)
12:00pm Private Event (FLC)
5:30pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00am Private Event (FLC, Kit)
9:30am BSF Leaders
12:00pm Lunchtime AA (FH)
6:00pm Small Group (Chapel)
6:30pm Puppets Rehearsal (FLC)
7:00pm Elizabeth Circle (off-site)
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Raise Right gift card deadline

9:00am Quilters' Christmas Bags (FLC)
11:30am OWLS planning (102)
7:00pm Boy Scouts (FLC)
7:00pm SW Historical Soc. (103-4, Kit)
7:30pm Al-Anon (202)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:30am BSF (entire building)
2:00pm Small Group (102)
6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
7:30pm Cancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
1:00pm Small Group (101)
3:00pm Homeschool Drama Class (FLC)
6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
8:00pm Dartball (away)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

10:30am Bulletin Team
8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Eagle newsletter deadline

9:00am Prayer Shawl Min. (103-4)
9:30am Girl Scouts (FH)
9:30am Private Event (101-2)
12:00pm Set-up/Christmas Program (FLC)
4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30am Sunday School
9:30am Men's Chorale (Choir Room)
10:00am Small Group (Lib)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
5:00pm Christmas Program/Dinner (FLC)

DAILY AND WEEKLY UPDATES ARE POSTED
ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGES.
BE SURE TO CHECK THEM OUT!