

NEWS NOTES

December 11, 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: Mike Gibboney
8:15am: Paul Wittenburg
11:00am: Dave and Karen Grossman,
Dwight Henricksen

Altar Guild

Dave and Karen Grossman,
Linda Wagner, Hunter Thompson

Readers

4:00pm: Margie Kennell
8:15am: Teresa Orahoad
11:00am: Sheryl Fraley

Acolytes

8:15am: Brooklyn Cress
Corban Allman
11:00am: Lukas Althoff

Greeters

4:00pm: Mary Campbell
8:15am: Judy Graessle
11:00am: Keith and Jane Stenerson

Lessons Today: Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: In honor of our dedicated staff at St John's. Given anonymously.

BULLETINS: In celebration of the birth of our Lord, and in memory of Richard Davis' birthday. Given by Vi Davis.

PERSONAL NEWS

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Please pray for the members who are or were recently in the hospital: Lydia Starr, Lorina Allmon, Vi Davis, Amy O'Day.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Stephanie Potokar and family for the death of her grandmother, Joyce Ann Moore, who passed away on November 18, 2022, to Brad Wahl and family as they grieve the death of his father on December 6, 2022, and to Christine Hank and family as they mourn for her father, Robert Wilson, who passed away on December 7, 2022. All who grieve are in our prayers.

NOTES OF THANKS

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, award-winning 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!

1st place: Cindy Henricksen

2nd place: Calvin McDannald

3rd place: Dwight Henricksen

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

☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM/DINNER THEATER TONIGHT! 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.

SCAM ALERT! SCAM ALERT! Please be alert: **Neither Pastor Seth nor any other St. John's staff member will ever email you out of the blue asking you for money or gift cards.**

Someone has been creating GMAIL accounts which make it look like they are a church staff member. They typically ask you to keep things confidential, and then ask you to purchase gift cards or to send aid money.

Unfortunately, there is not much we can do about people who create false GMAIL accounts.

If you ever have any question regarding the validity of an email you receive from church staff, please do not hesitate to call church at 614-875-2314.

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.




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.

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!



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? With all the events that occur this time of year, all the flyers and order forms, tissues and sanitizer, it is hard to keep our shared spaces tidy. Please check out our wall mounted literature racks in the Link above the coffee table and in the Sanctuary by each of the three major entrances. Here you will find items such as Raise Right gift card order forms, Council Meeting Minutes, weekly Prayer Requests, monthly Eagle newsletters, quarterly Portal of Prayers devotional booklets, and much more! Do you need an envelope for Accessibility Project donations? We have those, too! *Children's coloring folders with crayons and coloring pages can be found at the Sanctuary side ramp entrance and in the balcony.* Take a moment to see if we have what you are looking for before you leave today!



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.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE IS HERE! This Saturday, December 17 from 9am to noon in rooms 103-104, we will be holding our annual Christmas Cookie and other Christmas Goodies 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. Tell a friend and come get some Christmas goodies! Baked goods can be dropped off by 8:30am on Friday, December 16 in the Family Life Center Kitchen. **Proceeds from our sale will go to the Kitchen Fund.**



REMEMBER THE QUILTERS' QUILT SALE IS NEXT WEEKEND! Most are priced under \$40.00. The quilts are fashioned from your donated cotton quilting fabric. The quilts are hand knotted or machine stitched and are available in different sizes. There are other hand-made items for sale, also. The proceeds go to church related activities. Most of the unsold quilts are given to children's charities and St. John's Bed Brigade. Thank you for your interest in the Quilters.



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!

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!

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!

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.

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 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.



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.



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.

YOUTH NEWS

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. By pre-ordering we get in earlier, see the pre-show bands, and don't have to stand in line as long. Actual cost for pre-order 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.

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, fun, meaningful night. Questions? Contact leaders Laurie Pecuch or Megin Cress. RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 22 with Laurie or Megin.

STEWARDSHIP

Attendance December 4: **283**

November 2022	Income	YTD	Expense	YTD
Operating	\$59,078	\$634,779	\$71,394	\$687,402
Benevolence	\$ 3,355	& 42,761	\$ 4,482	\$ 44,233

Accessibility Project

Total Estimated Cost	\$1,300,000
Amount required to begin building	\$ 700,000
Amount pledged/given to Accessibility Project Fund	\$ 701,214
Total Expense through November 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!**

☞ CALENDAR ☜

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 Dinner Theater Program (FLC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:30am BSF Leaders
12:00pm Lunchtime AA (FH)
6:00pm Small Group (Chapel)
6:30pm Puppets Rehearsal (FLC)
7:00pm Respect Life (101-2)
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:00am Quilters (103-4)
6:00pm Girl Scouts (204)
6:15pm Fat Quarter Quilt Guild (FH)
7:00pm Boy Scouts (103-4)
7:30pm Al-Anon (202)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:30am BSF
10:00am Private Event
2:00pm Small Group (102)
6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
7:30pm Cancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
10:00am Private Event (103-4)
1:00pm Small Group (101)
3:00pm Homeschool Drama Class (FLC)
6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
8:00pm Dartball (FLC)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

10:30am Bulletin Team (Lib)
11:15am OWLS (FLC)
5:00pm Private Event (Sanc, FLC)
8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00am Christmas Cookies and Goodies Sale (103-4)
9:00am Quilters' Quilt Sale (Link)
4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:00am Quilters' Quilt Sale (Link)
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)
5:30pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

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

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.

**No Youth Sunday School will take place on
Christmas Day, December 25th, or New Years Day, January 1st.**
Adults, check with your Sunday School leaders regarding these dates.