

NEWS NOTES

January 10-11, 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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

Intern Billie Fisch | bfisch@stjohnsgc.org

Guest Pastor Don Allman, Guest Pastor Jeff Morlock



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry

Nick Grossman and David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders

Susan Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

✠ SERVING TODAY ✠

Greeters

11:00am MD: *Bill and Linda Diehl*
ND: *Lynda Berry*

Acolytes

8:15am: *Corban Allman, Cordelia Wanner*
11:00am: *Volunteers needed*

Readers

4:00pm: *Holly Starr*
8:15am: *Tim Allman*
11:00am: *Lisa Stallard*
Contemporary: *Lydia Shrum, Karrie Clark*

Altar Guild

Dave and Karen Grossman
Linda Wagner, Dee Harlor, Hunter Thompson
Contemporary: *Rachel Katterhenrich*

Ushers

4:00pm: *Michael Gibboney, Steve Henry*
8:15am: *Steve Marcum, David Sweeley, Hunter Thompson*
11:00am: *Don Carducci, George Gonsowski, Dennis Imbrock, Dave Witt*

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: *Holly Starr*
8:15am: *Tim and Christina Allman*
11:00am: *Cindy Henricksen, David and Lisa Stallard*
Contemporary: *Karrie Clark, Gini Rogers, Jennifer Shade*

**Lessons Today: Isaiah 42:1-9;
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:12-17.**

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: In loving memory of our mother Barbara Grossman's birthday. Given by her family.

BULLETINS: In memory of my mother Pat Gusa's birthday. Given by Frank and Jean Gusa.

✧ PERSONAL NEWS ✧

HOLY BAPTISM: Congratulations to **Katelyn Stenerson** on the baptism of her son, **Greyson Musick**; and to **Nolan and Bayleigh Wininger** on the baptism of their daughters, **Ryleigh and Magnolia Wininger**. Greyson, Ryleigh, and Magnolia were baptized in the presence of their families on Saturday, January 3, 2026. **Congratulations to Mark and Elizabeth Brandt** on the baptism of their daughter, **Hannah Carroll**, and son, **Wyatt Carroll**, on Sunday, January 11, 2026. Please keep all of them in your prayers as they begin their baptismal journey with the Lord.

NOTES OF THANKS:

I wanted to write this to tell all of you how incredibly thankful I am for all that you do for my children as well as for me. A lot of things would not be possible if not for your support. We are incredibly blessed. I hope that all of you have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. Again, **THANK YOU** all so much for everything. Merry Christmas! ~ Kathy Porter, Kenzlynn, Ashton, Magnolia, Deacon, and Carter.

THANK YOU for St. John's members and all who gifted with generosity! Sincerely, Judy Graessle.

Dear St. John's, **THANK YOU** for the special items and poinsettia delivered to my home December 7. Your kindness is appreciated. Best wishes to all for a Happy New Year. Fondly, Pat Walters.

THANK YOU so much for thinking of me at Christmas. Your kindness means more than you'll ever know. ~ Elaine Rapp.

✧ TODAY'S NEWS ✧

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE KITCHEN TEAM: In our newly remodeled kitchen, the dishes are no longer placed on the counters or the Link. Instead, dishes to pick up are placed in a cabinet along the FLC marked "DISHES/TRAYS FOR EVENTS." ***This cabinet is full.*** We have upcoming events that will require this space. For those who brought food for OWLS, funeral luncheons, or other recent events, **please pick up your dish(es) ASAP.** Moving forward, if dishes are left for more than two weeks and/or are unlabeled, they will be donated. Please contact Wilma Phillips at 614-623-2770 if you have questions.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be next Sunday, January 18 at 12pm in the FLC.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS TODAY—A Membership Class will be held at **12:15pm today, Sunday, January 11**. We'll have lunch together in room 103-4. All visitors to our congregation, our newest members, our long time regulars, and all potential members are invited to come! The classes will cover Christian mission at St. John's, and we'll be able to answer any questions you have about our congregation and our Lutheran Christian heritage. We will formally receive new members into our congregation during the 11am traditional worship service on Sunday, January 18. We hope you can come!

OWLS EVENT—JANUARY 16, 2026: Know anyone that could us a helping hand? Maybe you? Well, there's good news! There's a new guy in town ready to help you out!! Jackson Township Fire Department has just one for you! Adam Gatten is just the guy for you! He is a community paramedic! Adam has been with the fire department for 30 years and has been working in this position for the past two years. He never thought he would enjoy changing people's smoke detectors and light bulbs. But he says the best part of his day is when he gets to put a smile on someone's face by helping solve problems when they don't know who else to turn to.

With the goal to keep people in their homes and out of the hospital, Gatten is always out in his van helping community members with everything from installing bathroom grab bars and changing smoke detectors to organizing medications and passing out toiletries and food. And if he can't help you he has a network of community members, leaders and organizations he regularly connects with to help him get the best resources for anyone who calls in. Hope you join us to hear more!

The OWLS will provide fried chicken and meat loaf for our potluck lunch, but we ask you to bring a covered dish and join your friends (old and new) 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 may call the office or Bonnie Swanson 614-562-8002. Hope to see you there!

BULLETIN DEDICATIONS: Consider submitting a Bulletin Dedication in honor or in memory of loved ones, or to celebrate an event, milestone, birthday, or anniversary. Bulletin Dedications are only \$20.00. Reserve your preferred weekend date on the Bulletins Sign Up sheet on the Parish Entrance bulletin board. Please direct questions to Barb Armentrout at 614-875-2985.

BIBLE PASSAGES AND QUESTIONS TO PONDER: Hello All! To deepen your walk with Christ, please consider reading these passages and pondering the questions before next Sunday. These will be our lectionary readings for Sunday, January 18th.

Monday, January 12

Take a moment to reflect on yesterday's readings, sermon, and service. What stood out to you? What is God calling you to as a result?

Tuesday, January 13—Reading: Isaiah 49: 1-7

Which traits of the servant seem to be more than you can handle?

Which traits do you have already?

Wednesday, January 14—Reading: Psalm 40: 1-11

When do you feel like you've prayed and then waited patiently for the Lord?

Thursday, January 15—Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:10

How do you gauge success?

How does this compare to how success is measured in this passage?

Friday, January 16—Reading: John 1:29-42

When you get good news, who is the first person you share it with?

Do you think the disciples would be accepted into church leadership today?

Why or why not?

Saturday, January 18—Please take a moment to pray for those who will take part in our services this weekend. Please pray that their hearts will be enlightened and that all will follow God's call boldly.

Merciful Lord, we ask that you fill our pews to capacity this weekend. Help our hearts be changed by Your Word. Please speak through our pastors and our leaders. Help us to know You and love You more after the services. In Jesus' Name, **Amen.**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of Communion Assistants for 11am traditional worship services! Please consider serving in this very important ministry. It does not require any extra time, just the time you are already here at church. People typically serve just 6 times a year, one Sunday every other month. It's not a huge commitment, but a very important one. It's a moving experience to serve the Lord's Supper to your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. If you feel called to serve in this important ministry, please contact Lisa Stallard by phone or text at 614-284-6692 or email l.stallard15@gmail.com.

LIFE-TO-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP KICK-OFF JANUARY 24: At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus calls us to “Go and make disciples of all nations”. We believe this so strongly that we have painted it on the walls of our sanctuary, yet what does it mean to be a disciple?

When Jesus called his disciples, it was a life changing experience for them. They left their familiar lives behind and embarked on a brave new journey with Jesus. They were called to walk with him, to live life with him, to be willing to receive his correction, and were willing to be held accountable to what Jesus taught them. Life-to-Life Discipleship aims to mirror this process.

This 15-week study begins with meeting us where we are now, and then just as Jesus called his original 12 disciples to follow, calls us to stop into a journey with him. We will gain a deeper walk with him through Bible study and accountability partners. We then dive deeper into issues such as what it means to be a servant leader and how to let God control our health, our finances, and our families. This study is designed for adults of all ages, and for our high schoolers who will be doing this study during Energizers meetings.

Interested, but you'd like more information? Please come to our kickoff event on **January 24 at 1pm** in the Family Life Center. We hope to see you there! After the kickoff event, regular meetings will be held throughout the week at various times and locations, which are listed below.

Sundays – 1pm with Stephen and Rachel Katterhenrich in Room 103-4

Mondays – 6-7:30pm with Dan and Jenn Czaplicki (off site)

Tuesdays – 7-8:30pm with Susan Previts (off-site)

Thursdays – 9:30-11am with Pastor Don Allman in Room 103-4

Fridays – 10-11:30am with David Shrum and Vicar Billie Fisch in the FLC

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP: Our worship services each week are beautified with wonderful music, smiling faces, and flowers. Making a flower dedication for the Altar, Pulpit, and Lectern is a wonderful way to remember or honor loved ones. Reserve your date on the Altar Flowers Chart in the Parish Entrance. Please direct questions to Lesa Corbin at 614-530-4984.

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE: Thank you, everyone, for your great generosity in donating coats, hats, gloves, and blankets that were collected so far this winter. It is a winter project, so we will continue collecting and delivering these items through the end of February. We've received a great variety of items, even some handmade scarves, and a monetary donation. Again, a big **THANK YOU and bless all of you** for sharing during this cold winter season! If you have any questions, please contact Bruce or Karen Whyte, 614-878-9392 or whyteklz@gmail.com

CHECK IT OUT! If you haven't seen the bulletin boards around church lately, please stop by and have a look! During Christmas break, youth from 7th-12th grade gathered to change out youth bulletin boards. They came up with Bible verses and a theme centered around those verses to update the boards. They did a fabulous job being creative and sharing God's word. So, stop by to see the students' work located outside of the Sanctuary near the Parish Doors created by Cordelia Wanner and Davy Clark, down in the Fellowship Hall created by Ben Previts, Caleb Ball, and Corban Allman, and on the 3rd floor outside of the Confirmation Room created by Lukas Althoff and Truman Allman.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held on **Tuesday, January 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.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit your prayer requests on the back of this week's salmon sheet. You may also contact the church office by phone at 614-875-2314 or by email at secretary@stjohnsgc.org. Requests are updated on a weekly basis and should be turned in by Monday mornings.

SUBMITTING A NEWS NOTES ARTICLE? Articles are due on **Wednesdays by 9am**. Please give your article directly to the office, or via email at secretary@stjohnsgc.org.

❧ YOUTH NEWS ❧

Friendly reminder: youth groups will NOT meet if Southwestern City Schools are cancelled for inclement weather.

ADVENTURE CLUB (age 4—4th graders) and **FAITH TREK** (5th—6th graders) meet on Thursdays from 5:45-7:15pm. The greeters table will open at 5:30pm and the suggested meal donation is \$3.

EXPLORERS (7th—8th graders) and **ENERGIZERS** (High Schoolers) meet every Wednesday from 7-8:30pm. Come join us as we kick off the new year! Explorers may contact Donna Westerfeld at dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org and Energizers may connect with Gini Rogers at grogers@stjohnsgc.org with any questions.

Children's Choir meets Thursday nights at 5pm in the Chapel.

IQA for High Schoolers. Join Gini for IQA Bible Study on Zoom every Monday from 7:30-8:30pm. We would love to see you there!

☞ STEWARDSHIP ☞

ATTENDANCE January 4 - 320

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

How to give to St. John's:

- + Place your offering in the collection basket during worship services.
- + Mail your offering to the church – 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, OH 43123.
- + St. John's website – www.stjohnsgc.org – online giving is available through Vanco Services, and we have partnered with them for more than 20 years. It is secure and safe.
- + Through your financial institution – they will send a check directly to the church on your behalf.
- + 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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

MEN'S CHORALE: Rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Adult Faith Discussion, FH Rm 001 / 1 Corinthians, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rm 102 / Parenting Topics, Amy Wanner, Rm 103-4.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2-4 years old, Rm 003 / age 5 & Kindergarten-Grade 2, Rm 310 / Grades 3-4, Rm 307 / Grades 5-6, Rm 303 / Grades 7-8, Confirmation Rm, 304 / Grades 9-12, High School Rm, 311.

SELAH ROOM: Rm 101, a quiet place available every Sunday from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School Hour
 10:45am Children's Church (103-4)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
12:15pm NEW MEMBER CLASS (103-4)
 5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

9:30am BSF Leaders
 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
 1:00pm Altar Guild (Chapel)
 6:00pm Call Team (204)
 6:00pm Exercise Class
 6:30pm Life to Life Leader Mtg. (304)
 6:30pm PEACE Puppets (FLC)
 7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)
 7:00pm Finance Team (103-4)
 7:30pm IQA Bible Study (Zoom)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Sanc)
 9:30am Quilters (103-4)
 5:30pm Executive Team (Lib)
 6:00pm Girl Scouts #6679 (301, 303)
 6:15pm Fat Quarter Quilt Guild (FH)
 6:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)
 7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (103-4)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

9:30am BSF
 1:00pm Small Group (Lib)
 3:00pm Private Event (Lib)
 6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
 7:00pm Design for Living AA (FH)
 7:00pm Explorers & Energizers
 7:30pm Chancel Choir (FLC)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
 3:00pm Bulletin Team (Lib)
 5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)
 5:45pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek
 6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
 8:00pm Dartball (away)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

11:30am OWLS (FLC, Kit)
 2:00pm Private Event (101)
 3:00pm Men's Chorale (Sanc)
 6:00pm Prayers and Pins (off-site)
 8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

10:00am Visitation (Sanc)
 11:00am Funeral Service (Sanc, FLC)
 12:30pm Columbus Miniature Society (102, 103-4)
 1:00pm Private Event (FH, FH Kit)
 4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School Hour
 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
12:00pm ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (FLC)
 5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
12:00PM IN THE FLC**

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