

NEWS NOTES

December 14-15, 2024

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

Intern Dale Stanley | dstanley@stjohnsgc.org



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry

Nick Grossman and David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders

Susan Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

☞ SERVING TODAY ☞

Greeters

4:00pm: Mary Campbell

8:15am: Carol Penrod

11:00am MD: Christine Hank

ND: Don and Diane Carducci

Ushers

8:15am: Steve Marcum, David
Sweeley, Hunter Thompson

11:00am: Rick Butsko, Bill Diehl, Dennis
Imbrock, Larry Sutton

Acolytes

8:15am: Evie Stanley, Miles Stanley

11:00am: Lukas Althoff, Nick Althoff

Contemporary Communion Prep

Rachel Katterhenrich

Altar Guild

Dave and Karen Grossman

Linda Wagner, Hunter Thompson

Readers

4:00pm: Ann Jones

8:15am: Rita Orahood

11:00am: Christine Hank

Contemporary: Hope Katterhenrich, Ethan
Czaplicki

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: Bill Woodgeard

8:15am: Sarah Schmitz, Paul
Wittenberg

11:00am: Wayne and Carla Beavers,
Caroline Koethke

Contemporary: Rachel Katterhenrich,
Brad and Theresa Wahl

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: in memory of my parents, Emerson and Mildred Braskett. Given by Jim Braskett and family.

PULPIT FLOWERS: In celebration of Sarah Wittenberg's 25th birthday. Given by the family.

BULLETINS: In honor of my friend, Catherine. Given by Armand Arabian.

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

Lessons Today: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18.

☪ ☪ PERSONAL NEWS ☪

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of **Ruth Bickenheuser**, who passed away on December 5, 2024. All who grieve are in our hearts and prayers.

WELCOME JASON BOSSE! Jason is our new Property and Grounds Manager. We are thankful for his years of experience in these areas. Please continue to use the "Maintenance Request" form to alert him to maintenance concerns around the property. His email is jbosse@stjohnsgc.org. Jason is also the person that oversees the various storage areas in the building and on the grounds. PLEASE check with him first regarding your storage needs. Thank you for respecting his role in helping to care for our large facility/grounds used by so many different groups throughout the week.

☪ ☪ TODAY'S NEWS ☪

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DINNER THEATER: Please join us **TONIGHT, Sunday, December 15th at 5:00pm** for our annual **Christmas Program Dinner Theater**. 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 donation 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 Megan Grossman (mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org) if you are interested in helping.



ANGEL TREES: The angels have all been claimed! If you selected an angel, remember to wrap the gift, and **bring it back with the angel attached to the church office by Saturday, December 21st**. These gifts are going to children in our congregation who otherwise would not have much of a Christmas. If you have any questions, please reach out to Megan Grossman, 614-905-2629 or at mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org.

QUILTERS' QUILT SALE - Don't forget to visit the Quilt Sale in the Link on Sunday after church. We hope the quilts help warm your body and soul. You make our ministry possible. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY TWICE-A-MONTH PRAYER GROUP – Starting in January 2025.

Starting on Wednesday, January 8th, all are welcome to join a new St. John's prayer group. We'll meet in the chapel at 6:30 p.m. (see schedule below). In addition to saying prayers together for God's Church, for the world, for healing, and for any issues we'd like to share with the group, we'll also be praying for all the members of St. John's by name from week to week over the course of five months. All are welcome to jump into this group at any time!

Prayer Meeting Schedule (all meetings at 6:30pm):

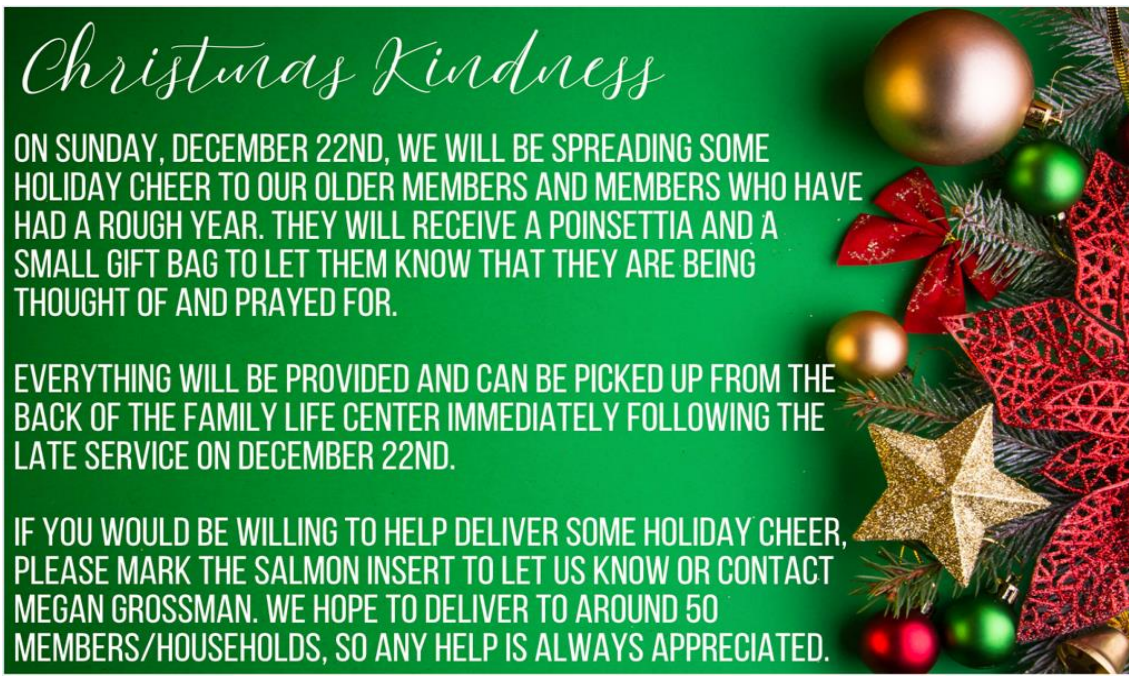
January 8 and 22

March 5 and 19

May 14

February 5 and 19

April 2, 16, and 30



Christmas Kindness

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, WE WILL BE SPREADING SOME HOLIDAY CHEER TO OUR OLDER MEMBERS AND MEMBERS WHO HAVE HAD A ROUGH YEAR. THEY WILL RECEIVE A POINSETTIA AND A SMALL GIFT BAG TO LET THEM KNOW THAT THEY ARE BEING THOUGHT OF AND PRAYED FOR.

EVERYTHING WILL BE PROVIDED AND CAN BE PICKED UP FROM THE BACK OF THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LATE SERVICE ON DECEMBER 22ND.

IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP DELIVER SOME HOLIDAY CHEER, PLEASE MARK THE SALMON INSERT TO LET US KNOW OR CONTACT MEGAN GROSSMAN. WE HOPE TO DELIVER TO AROUND 50 MEMBERS/HOUSEHOLDS, SO ANY HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED.

BIKE PROJECT 2024: Thank you so much for supporting the Bike Project this year!! With your generous help, we raised enough funds to **give 40 bikes** this year to Buckeye Ranch for children in need this Christmas season. Thank you to all those families who volunteered to help assemble these bikes, and special thanks to Butch Myers and Joe Lovell for helping us to deliver. Thank you again for the continued support of the bike project for so many years and helping to give kids something fun to ride at Christmas!

NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Are you interested in starting a devotional series in the new year? The Church Library has many daily devotionals you are welcome to check out for the whole year. While you are there, check out our New Arrivals section (both donated and purchased). Questions or comments? Text Susan Previts at 614-363-9024.

OWLS EVENT – DECEMBER 20, 2024: In case you haven't heard, there's a new guy in town!! Actually, a new guy in the South-Western School District (SWCS). Mr. Randy Banks started his superintendency on August 1, 2024, having been selected by the board of education to become the district's next educational leader previously in June.

Prior to assuming the role, Banks served as an Assistant Superintendent at Worthington City Schools dating back to 2015 and previously served as Director of Human Resources for the district. He originally started his administrative career at SWCS as the personnel director for the certificated staff. Earlier on in his career at SWCS, he also served as the principal of Brookpark Middle School (now Beulah Park Middle School) and Finland Middle School.

Mr. Banks will be our guest speaker, and we are looking forward to hearing the latest news and updates for SWCS. Hope you plan to join us!



The OWLS will provide fried chicken for our potluck lunch but we ask you to bring a covered dish and join your friends for a delicious lunch and a wonderful program. Please plan to arrive around 11:15 am and the meeting will open at 11:30 am. Use the salmon sheet in Sunday's bulletin to make your reservation. You can also call the office or Bonnie Swanson at 614-562-8002. *Just in case you don't know --- OWLS are Older Wiser LutheranS but everyone is welcome!*

PRAYERS AND PINS—2025: **St. John's Bowling Club @ Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl**, 614-491-7155, 3224 S High St, Columbus 43207. 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 starting January 12th to mid-March.
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, jo dimond@aol.com. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MEXICO MISSION FUNDS!

LAY READERS are needed for the 8:15am and 11am worship services from January through July. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish entrance. Thank you for serving in this ministry. Contact Jo Dimond if you have any questions at 614-270-3291.

LOST TUPPERWARE: Several dishes were brought in for a funeral dinner in November. One of the serving/carrier Tupperware dishes may have gone missing. Please check your cabinets and keep your eyes open for a vintage-yellow-colored dish carrier with a matching yellow handle over the lid. The owner's name should be printed on the bottom. Please contact or return to the office once found. Thank you!

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE: After enjoying such a wonderful autumn, it is now time to think about winter, which is just around the corner. Cold winds will soon be blowing through Central Ohio. We are collecting coats, jackets, hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves to keep the less fortunate warm through the winter. Cleaning closets seems to be a spring event, but my mother said fall cleaning is just as important. So, perhaps you can clean out your closets and find a coat or jacket, which you no longer need. Remember: Matthew 25:40: "I tell you, whenever you did this for one of these brothers of mine, you did it for me." Donated items can be left in the hall outside the Family Life Center in the marked bin.



This year we are donating our items to Jordan's Crossing Center Ministry, located on Hague Avenue, which ministers mainly to the Hilltop area. You can find them online for more information. Any questions, please contact Bruce or Karen Whyte, 614-716-8754. Thank you! *P.S. – They have also requested candles.*

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available in the Overflow (room 202).



These are dated for 2025, and your box number may be different from last year, so please wait until January 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 following weekend.

PROPERTY TEAM MEMBERS meet the first Monday of the month at 11am. If you have questions or concerns, please share them with a member of the team or put a note in the Property Team mailbox by the church office.

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.

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.

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.

A blue rectangular graphic for a blood drive. On the left is a large white heart filled with various Christmas-themed icons: wrapped gifts, snowflakes, holly leaves, a red blood drop, and a red cross. To the right of the heart is the American Red Cross logo (a red cross on a white circle) with the text "American Red Cross" below it. Further right, the date "December 17th" is written in a white cursive font. Below the date is the slogan "GIVE SOMETHING THAT Means Something®" in white, with "GIVE SOMETHING THAT" in a bold sans-serif font and "Means Something®" in a cursive font. At the bottom, "GIVE BLOOD" is written in large, bold, white sans-serif letters, and "12pm - 6pm in the FLC" is written in a white cursive font below it.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held on **Tuesday, December 17th** 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.

OFFICE HOURS are Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON

Christmas Eve AT 4pm, 6pm, AND 8pm

Christmas Morning AT 10am

ALL ARE WELCOME!

STEWARDSHIP

ATTENDANCE December 8 - 319

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.



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

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2-4 years old, Rm 003 / ages 5 to Kindergarten, Rm 009 / Grades 1 - 2, Rm 204 / Grades 3 – 4, Rm 307 / Grades 5 - 6, Rm 303 / Grades 7 – 8, Confirmation Room / High School, HS Room 311.

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

☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30pm Men's Chorale (Sanc)
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Small Group (Lib)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
12:00pm BSA Religious Medals (304)
12:00pm 2nd Year Faith Celebration Prep
(103-4)
1:30pm IQA Bible Study (HS Room)
5:00pm **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DINNER
THEATER (FLC, Kit)**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
1:30pm GriefShare (103-4)
6:30pm Puppets (FLC)
7:00pm Daily Reprieve (FH)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 6:30am Men's Prayer Group (Sanc)
9:00am Quilters (103-4)
12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive (FLC)
6:00pm Internship Team Meeting (Lib)
7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (103-4)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 1:30pm Small Group (102)
6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
7:30pm Christmas Choir (Sanc)
7:30pm Chancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
3:00pm After School Acting Class (FLC)
5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)
6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
8:00pm Dartball (away)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 9:30am Ladies Bible Study (103-4)
10:30am Bulletin Team (Lib)
11:30am OWLS (FLC, Kit)
6:00pm Private Event (FLC)
8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

ANGEL TREE FINAL DROP OFF

- 3:00pm Private Event (FLC, 103-4)
4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (SH [FH])

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE

- 8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30pm Men's Chorale (Sanc)
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Small Group (Lib)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
12:00pm **CHRISTMAS KINDNESS (FLC)**
12:00pm Private Event (FH)
1:30pm IQA Bible Study (HS Room)
5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

Christmas Eve Worship at 4pm, 6pm, and 8pm

Christmas Morning Worship at 10am



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

