

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3220 Columbus Street  
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297  
614-875-2314

DATED MATERIALS

JANUARY 2026

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Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297



# *The Eagle*

JANUARY 2026

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**

Traditional

Saturdays at 4pm

Sundays at 8:15 & 11am

Contemporary

Sundays at 11am

[www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDS.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div> <div>January</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div> <div>HAPPY</div> <div>new year</div> </div> </div>						
<b>4</b> Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am Adult Basketball 5pm	<b>5</b> BSF Leaders 9:30am Property Team 10am Lunchtime AA 12pm Call Team 6pm Elizabeth Circle 6:30pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	<b>6 RAISE RIGHT DUE</b> Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am OWLS Planning 11am Girl Scouts #6679 6pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm SW Historical Soc. 7pm	<b>7</b> BSF 9:30am Small Group 1:30pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm AA Design for Living 7pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	<b>8</b> Promise Keepers 8am Small Group 2pm Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	<b>9</b> OMR Meeting 10:00am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8:30pm	<b>10 EAGLE DEADLINE</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry 9am Girl Scouts #6300 10am Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
<b>11</b> Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Children's Church 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am <b>NEW MEMBER CLASS 12pm</b> Adult Basketball 5pm	<b>12</b> BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Altar Guild 1pm Call Team 6pm Exercise Class 6pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm Finance Team 7pm	<b>13</b> Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am Executive Team 5:30pm Fat Quarter Quilt Guild 6:15pm Praise Band Reh. 6:30pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	<b>14</b> BSF 9:30am Small Group 1:30pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm AA Design for Living 7pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	<b>15</b> Promise Keepers 8am Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	<b>16</b> OWLS 11:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8:30pm	<b>17</b> Columbus Miniature Society 12:30pm Private Event 12pm Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
<b>18</b> Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am <b>ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 12pm</b> Adult Basketball 5pm	<b>19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY</b> BSF Leaders (Zoom) Lunchtime AA 12pm Call Team 6pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	<b>20</b> Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am <b>Red Cross Blood Drive 12pm</b> Friends of the Library 5:50pm Girl Scouts #6679 6pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	<b>21</b> BSF 9:30am Small Group 1:30pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm AA Design for Living 7pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	<b>22</b> Promise Keepers 8am Eagle Mailing Team 9am Small Group 2pm Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	<b>23</b> Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8:30pm	<b>24 LIFE TO LIFE KICK-OFF 11am</b> Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
<b>25</b> Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Children's Church 10:45am Trad. & Cont. Worship 11am Adult Basketball 5pm Saddles n Such 4-H 6pm	<b>26</b> BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Call Team 6pm Exercise Class 6pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm Sarah Circle 7pm	<b>27</b> Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am Internship Team 6pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	<b>28</b> BSF 9:30am Small Group 1:30pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm AA Design for Living 7pm Explorers & Energizers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	<b>29</b> Promise Keepers 8am Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (away)	<b>30</b> Bible Study 9:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm Private Event 6pm AA 8:30pm	<b>31</b> Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm

**JOIN US  
FOR THE ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**

**The Annual Meeting  
will be  
Sunday, January 18, 2026  
at 12:00pm in the FLC**

**JANUARY  
BIRTHDAYS**

*New Member Class*

**SUNDAY JANUARY 11, 2026  
12:15PM  
ROOM 103/104**

**COME HAVE LUNCH AND LEARN MORE  
ABOUT ST. JOHN'S AND WHO WE ARE!**

RSVP TO MEGAN GROSSMAN  
614-905-2629  
MGROSSMAN@STJOHNSGC.ORG

## Relationships are important to us at St. John's!

*We want to surround our children and youth with lots of faith-filled relationships between all age groups so that they might know the love of Jesus and stay connected with the church. If you'd like to know how you can make a difference in a young person's life, connect with our*

*Interim Children and Youth Directors:*

*Christina Allman, Donna Westerfeld, and Gini Rogers.*



**ADVENTURE CLUB and FAITH TREK** will begin to meet again **Thursday, January 8** and continue weekly on Thursdays, 5:45pm—7:15pm. The greeter's table opens at 5:30pm. Suggested donation for the evening meal is \$3. Adventure Club is for ages 4 through 4th grade. Faith Trek is for 5th and 6th grade. We can't wait to see you in the New Year!

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** meets before Adventure Club and Faith Trek in the Chapel on Thursdays, starting at 5pm. Children staying for youth groups are escorted down to the greeter's table.

**EXPLORERS and ENERGIZERS** for grades 7—8 and 9—12 will return to meeting weekly on **Wednesday, January 7** from 7—8:30pm. Wednesday nights are a great night to connect with others, make friends, and grow in faith.

**IQA Bible Study** for middle and high schoolers meets with Gini starting on Monday, January 5 at 7pm via Zoom.

**PARENTING GROUP** meets every Sunday, 9:30-10:30am in Room 103-104, with Amy Wanner. Stop by and join the conversation. It's a great place to be encouraged and feel supported.

**PARENTING RESOURCES** are available in the youth office. Feel free to stop by and see what books you'd like to borrow. There are also insightful Parent Guides from AXIS.ORG that are on the wall across from the youth office. AXIS.ORG is "connecting Parents, Teens, & Jesus in a Disconnected World." This website is full of free resources on parenting youth in today's culture. Each week, AXIS.ORG researches culture to help you stay up to date on the music, movies, TV shows, and social media trends impacting your kid's world. Sign up to receive the weekly Culture Translator email for free at <https://axis.org/>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** for all ages meets from 9:30—10:30am. Our Sunday School Superintendent is Tim Allman. See Tim about what opportunities await you!

**LOOKING AHEAD!** Souper Bowl 2026 is the weekend of February 7 and 8!

## 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Sanctuary.

These are dated 2026, 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 if you would like to receive one on the notepad provided, and there will be a box for you the following weekend.

**Please note a change to the envelopes:** when using the "other" line, please specify the fund you would like to donate to. If none is specified, it will be placed in the Operating Fund.





## BIKE PROJECT

Thank you so much for supporting the Bike Project this year!! With your generous help, we raised enough funds to give 26 bikes to Buckeye Ranch for children in need this Christmas season. Thank you to all those families who volunteered to help assemble these bikes with special thanks to Eddie and Joe from Columbus Police bike unit for QC of all the bikes. Thanks also go out to Butch Myers and Joe Lovell for helping us to deliver the bikes to Buckeye Ranch. Thank you again for the continued support of the Bike Project for so many years and for helping to give kids something fun to ride at Christmas!

## CHILI COOK-OFF AND DESSERT AUCTION:



Thank you, thank you, thank you! I was overwhelmed with the wonderful response to the Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Auction. We had 8 chili entries, many desserts, and raised almost \$1,600.00 for Mexico Missions. It was an incredible event with great fellowship, food, and fun!

Congratulations to our winners! In 3rd place, Dwight Henricksen; in 2nd place, Alec Thomas; and in 1st place, Cindy Henricksen!

Even though we are unable to go to Mexico or Alaska at this time, the Missions Board reconvened earlier this year and decided to send a \$5000.00 love offering from our accounts to both *Genesis of Mexico* and *Alaska Mission for Christ* each year we are unable to send a team.

Please pray for the Mission. With God's will, it shall continue, and we will again be able to love the sweet children of Mexico into His kingdom. Miracles and blessings abound! ~ Diana Imbrock.

**"Thank you** to St. John's Family: We were filled with thanks and joy for the love that you shared with us in the wonderful gifts the you presented to us for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thank you for the Thanksgiving box filled with everything for a Thanksgiving dinner, and a card to purchase a turkey. Also, thank you for the poinsettia, bag of candy and "necessities," and gift cards for Christmas. We appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness in remembering us and sharing with us this year. What a blessing to be members of the St. John's family. Thanks for all that you do in serving Jesus Christ and His Church. God's blessings in 2026! Love, Pastor Tom and Jeanne Phillips."



**"Thanks** to Fred and Donna Rieser who keep Jordan's Crossing going feeding the homeless. Thank you to the lovely lady with a warm smile, who brightened my day Sunday when they brought me my goodie bag from St. John's." ~ Pat Marie.

**"Just a note to thank St. John's Church** and the committee for the heartwarming **Service of Comfort and Remembrance** on Sunday, November 30th, 2025. The service recognized both of my sisters, Rita Pompey and Jean Ferguson. My family that was able to attend, as well as Martha and I, left with a grateful heart. Thank you for giving so much love! Love, Tom and Martha Spray."



See Pam Wittenberg on how your gift cards can raise monies at no extra cost to you!  
**ORDERS ARE PLACED THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.**



**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!

## TWICE-A-MONTH MONDAY EXERCISE CLASS

Please join us every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month at 6pm in the Family Life Center (FLC) for 30 minutes of fun, fellowship, and fitness. Everyone is welcome, however the class is geared more towards those who want to strengthen their cores and work on their balance. There are chairs available to help with any needed stability. Several of the exercises are seated, but there are some standing balance challenges too. The last 5 or so minutes of each session is a basic work out with light hand weights for anyone who wants to stay and participate. Just bring two 1-3 lb. weights or even a couple of 16.9 oz. plastic water bottles will work. This is a drop in class so no registration is needed. Just come when you can!

Please call Diane Sexton with any questions at 678-572-0308.

**The next meetings will be on January 12th and 26th.**

## ATTENTION 11:00am TRADITIONAL PARISHONERS

We are in need of Communion Assistants for 11am Traditional Worship Service! 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/text at 614-284-6692 or email, l.stallard15@gmail.com.

## PRAYERS AND PINS—2026

St. John's Bowling Club at 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.

1. Club will bowl at 6:00pm on Fridays from January 9th 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 all 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 SHORT-TERM MISSIONS!**



**St. John's will be hosting a  
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE  
in the Family Life Center on TUESDAY,  
January 20th from 12-6 pm.**

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

## WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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.

*Prayer Shawl  
Ministry*



**Join us for the next meetings on  
Saturday, January 10th at 9am  
and Tuesday, January 27th at  
6pm in Room 103-4.**



**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 and are held in Room 103-4. Contact the leaders listed for more information.

Elizabeth Circle  
Contact  
Amy Shaw  
614-496-2890

**Monday, January 5th at 6:30pm**

Sarah Circle  
Contact  
Wilma Phillips  
614-875-7931

**We will resume on March 23rd.**

We hope the Christmas bags for the children at the Grove City Methodist "Purple Door" Church Food Pantry were a witness to Christian love and understanding. Many thanks to all who donated the beloved candy and other items for the children. We were able to share some of the candy with Jordan's Crossing. It only took one hour to fill the bags with so many helping. We could not have done the bags without the congregation's concern and donations. Thank you for being a partner in our ministry.

We thank all who visited and supported us at the Quilters' Annual Quilt Sale. We hope you find the quilts warm and enjoy using them.

Our 2025 treasury will be divided among the church ministries and charities.



We have the solution for those Christmas cards that are just too beautiful and sentimental to throw out in the trash. Give the front of the cards to the Quilters. After we have accumulated a stack of them, we donate the fronts to the Cancer Thrift Store. Patrons buy the card fronts as materials for crafts. Also, don't forget to tear off those used stamps for us. We send the stamps to two veterans' hospitals for rehab activities. Please place your donation in the Quilters' cabinet in the Link. Thank you.

Come and visit the Quilters! We are a very small group of usually 5-7 that meet most Tuesdays. If you don't want to come weekly, drop in occasionally. You are always welcome to come, sit, and just visit for a while. You may visit and then go on your way. You don't have to make a commitment. The Quilters meet most Tuesdays in room 103-4 from about 9:30am to 1:00pm.

The Quilters wish to thank everyone for your donations and prayerful support. Our ministry cannot exist without you.

We wish you all a peaceful 2026!

## OWLS EVENT—JANUARY 16, 2026



Know anyone that could use 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 smoking 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 at 614-562-8002.

Hope to see you there!

## ANNOUNCING: NEW BIBLE STUDY

You asked and we have delivered! A new Bible study will be launched on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as we study the Parables of Jesus. Once again, we will meet at 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. in order to accommodate as many as who would like to attend. We will meet at 3:00 in 103-104, but due to scheduling conflicts, the 6:00 group will meet in 204, across from the chapel.

In order that we may have enough material for everyone; I would encourage you to sign up. You can do this in several ways. Put an RSVP on the salmon insert in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. Call the church and let the office know you will be attending. And finally, you could fill out the form below and return to the office or put in Pastor Patti's mailbox.

Once again, I look forward to delving deep into the Word of God with you and sharing our stories of faith together.

*Pastor Patti*

### MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN AS OF DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

#### Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Ralph Johnston** by Beth Katterhenrich; and Wilma Phillips

Given in memory of **Nancy Patzer** by Beth Katterhenrich; Richard and Shelah Stage; and Jim Braskett

Given in memory of **Genevieve and Bud Sheets; Mabel and Edward Miller** by Ed and Glenda Sheets

Given in memory of **Bernard Thompson** by James and Ann Jones

#### Sunday School Fund

Given in memory of **Ralph Johnston** by Beth Katterhenrich

Given in memory of **Jan Evans** by Dellno and Betty Lewis

#### OWLS Fund

Given in memory of **Nancy Kinman** by Gary Kinman

#### Greg Allen Playground Fund

Given in memory of **Greg Allen** by Freda and Gary Allen

#### Youth Fund (Bike Project)

Given in honor of **David J. Katterhenrich** by Beth Katterhenrich

#### Wycliffe Fund

Given in memory of **Paul and Alice Katterhenrich - and their parents** by Beth Katterhenrich

### CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Based on the information we gathered at the Congregational Workshop, the Call Team completed our Congregational Profile, and it was approved by Church Council at their meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This document summarizes who we are as a church, our mission and ministry, and the qualities we are seeking in our next Senior Pastor. The Call Team also created a video. While our adults were having our Congregational Workshop, our kids were having one of their own. The video highlights the work of our children. We think you will really like it! We sent both the Congregational Profile and the video to the NALC Call Process coordinator, and both have been posted on the NALC website.

To see both the Congregational Profile and the video, please go to [thenalc.org/call](http://thenalc.org/call). From there scroll down to "Pastoral Vacancies". Then scroll down in that big box until you see St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grove City, Ohio. Click on our box, and the links to both the profile and the video are there.

Please continue to keep the Call Team and our future pastor in your prayers as we move forward with faith and patience, trusting in God's timing and guidance.

### PRAYER FOR THE CALL PROCESS

Gracious and Loving God, we thank You for guiding our Call Team with wisdom and unity as they seek the pastor You have chosen for St. John's. Bless their continued work and prepare the heart of the one You are calling to serve among us. Help our congregation remain steadfast in prayer, open to Your Spirit, and ready to welcome the new shepherd You will provide. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**



## THE RETURN OF THE EPIPHANY STAR

Happy New Year! As you read this, the season of Christmas has ended, and the season of Epiphany will have begun.

An Epiphany is a revelation, an ah-ha, an awakening to something we were unable or blind to see before, especially in matters of the Divine. In our everyday world, we use epiphany to refer to a time when everything seems to come together. As persons centered in Christ, Epiphany is that day we celebrate when it was revealed that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. Remember those three magi who come bearing gifts, following a star of illumination to worship the newborn King? They are an interesting lot, aren't they? They are the first people in Matthew's Gospel to come and worship Jesus. This is interesting, as most likely these wise guys, these star gazers, were from another religious persuasion altogether. Yet they came to worship him.

They also came to bring him gifts. Gifts, which at first glance don't seem to make much sense for this humble family, but when you consider the fact that they have to flee for their very lives, gifts which in the end, may very well allow them to live and survive on the run for quite some time. And so, the Kingdom of this new-born, which is threatened to be destroyed by Herod, is given a solid beginning by these generous men, and lives on.

I have observed in this family of faith, many generous wise people who have had their own ah-ha moments, find ways to give of their own time and resources. And the Kingdom of God lives on. I have watched over these last several years people's gifts unfold in a myriad of ways even they find hard to believe, as they are stretched beyond their comfort zones to try new ways to proclaim the Good News of God's gracious Word. And the kingdom of God lives on.

Once again, this year we will be distributing Epiphany stars, each with a word for you to ponder through this new year, letting the Light of Christ move in and through you in new and wondrous ways. They will be available Jan. 3-4 in a basket at the North entrance and on the table at Contemporary worship.

I rejoice with and for you. YOU are such a blessing. Continue in the year 2026 to challenge yourselves to outdo one another in Kingdom Living. For His Glory!

*Pastor Patti*

### **THANK YOU for your generous donations to last year's MITTEN TREE!**

We collected over 300 items that are being distributed to our neighbors in need in Grove City. I'd like to give a shout-out to those who knitted and crocheted hats, ear warmers, scarves and shawls--the time and love you put into these items is apparent and will be greatly appreciated!

--Ben Previts

### **ANNUAL COAT DRIVE**

Now that we are fully into the winter season, we are again asking for donations of winter coats, hats, gloves, and blankets. If we believe the Farmer's Almanac, our area is to be colder than normal and will receive more precipitation.

This year we have chosen a couple recipients for your donations: Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church (who has a connection with the Columbus City Schools) and West Jefferson Public Library (they have a couple racks offering residents free coats, jackets, hats, and gloves in the hall in their library). You may drop off items from November through February. A 'trash can' is in the Link with "John the Bear" on the edge of the container. If you have questions, contact Bruce or Karen Whyte, 614-878-9392.

*Matthew 25:40 ~ Jesus said, "Truly, I tell you whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me."*

**THANK YOU AND BLESSINGS TO ALL!**

Happy New Year, Church Family!

What a blessing it is to start a new year being surrounded by the love of this church! I pray that this has been a blessed Christmas season for everyone.

As I sit at my desk today, I can't help but think about New Year's Resolutions. It's the time of year when everyone seems to think, "New Year—New Start", and it's the time when most make a vow to be healthier in the year to come.

Some will join the gym, and each year as I see the gym flooded with new people in January and February, I pray that this will be a lasting life change. Some will vow to quit vaping or smoking, or vow to clean the house each week, or maybe even vow to be kinder and read their Bible every day. Again, all of these things are wonderful, and I pray for them to be permanent.

All this brings to mind Colossians 3:1-17, which calls us to put off the old self and to put on the new life in Christ. We are called to turn to Jesus, giving Him our lives, and let Him make lasting changes, not by our own will-power, but by His strength. We don't have to go it alone because He is with us.

Another way to avoid going it alone is by joining us in a Life-to-Life Discipleship Group. In these groups, we learn how to be thriving disciples of Christ by having discipling conversations with an accountability partner. Some of the topics covered include: The Importance of Intentionality, How to Have Discipling Conversations, Priorities, Boundaries, and Servant Leadership.

We will have 9 Life-to-Life Discipleship groups starting next month. A list of these can be found in the article below. We pray that you will come be a part of this vital movement in our church!

In Christ's Service,

*Vicar Billie Fisch*

Pastoral Intern

## UPDATING CHURCH INFORMATION DATE CHANGE

We will be starting to update the directory in January 2026. At that time, we will take individual and family photos in the Link. Keep your eyes on the NewsNotes for more information! If you have any questions in the meantime, reach out to Megan Grossman.

## LIFE-TO-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP KICKING OFF

Do you ever just feel stuck in rut when it comes to following Jesus? Maybe you know He's calling you to make a change, but when you try, you just end up feeling stuck. Would some accountability help? Would you love to learn how to have accountability conversations? Would learning how to Biblically handle boundaries, relationships, your health, your finances, and most importantly, your walk with Christ help? If so, come check out our Life-to-Life Discipleship Journey Kickoff. This powerful study will start in January and run through late Spring.

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

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

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

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

Thursday - 9:30-11am with Pastor Don in Room 103-4

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

For more information, please contact Vicar Billie Fisch at [bfisch@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:bfisch@stjohnsgc.org).

## **ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

Patricia A. Morlock, Pastor pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 740-405-1548
Billie Jo Fisch, Pastoral Intern bfisch@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Christina Allman Interim Grades K–6/Families callman@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Tim Allman Sunday School Superintendent	614-875-2314
Jason Bosse, Facilities Manager jbosse@stjohnsgc.org	614-441-1203
Megan Grossman Lay Ministry Director, mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Nick Grossman Contemporary Worship Leader	614-875-2314
Susan Locey, Bell Choir Director	614-208-8215
Mark Meuser, Director of Music mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Kathryn Mullins Office Administrator, kmullins@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Gini Rogers, Interim Grades 9-12 grogers@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
David Shrum Contemporary Music Leader	614-875-2314
Kate Shrum Children's Choir Director	614-875-2314
Donna Westerfeld Interim Grades 7-8, dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Jamie Wise, Recorder jwise@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314

**The article deadline for the FEBRUARY 2026  
Eagle is JANUARY 10TH.**  
Email announcements & articles to  
**secretary@stjohnsgc.org**  
or leave a handwritten copy in the church office.

## *Our Christian Sympathy is extended to*

The family and friends of **Nancy Patzer**,  
who passed away on November 22, 2025.

The family and friends of **Ralph Johnston**,  
who passed away on December 2, 2025.

*All who grieve  
are in our  
hearts and  
prayers.*



## **JOIN US FOR WEEKLY WORSHIP**

### **Traditional Worship:**

Saturdays at 4:00pm  
Sundays at 8:15am & 11:00am

**Contemporary Worship:** Sundays at 11:00am

## **Join us each week during the Sunday School Hour!**

We would like to welcome all children ages 2 and  
up who are not already attending to join us  
during the Sunday School Hour from  
**9:30-10:30am each Sunday.**

Parents are encouraged to join one of our adult  
classes. There's even one that focuses on  
parenting related topics.

If you have any questions, please see Tim Allman  
or a member of the youth staff.

We look forward to seeing you!!

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

## **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

**Officers:** Aaron Clark, Council President;  
David Clark, Vice President; Rachel Katterhenrich,  
Secretary; Kathy Myers, Treasurer.

**Members-At-Large:** Cindy Gonsowski,  
Abby Johnston, Doug Knisley, Bonnie Swanson,  
Amy Wanner, Paul Wittenberg.



# The Eagle

January 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio  
[www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org) 614-875-2314

Letter from the Pastor

*"Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)*

Dear Disciples of Jesus,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I'm reminded of the beautiful truth found in the above text from Lamentations. Each new year—and indeed, every single day is a gift of God's grace. It's a chance to begin again, to recommit, and to draw closer to Him. Whatever challenges or triumphs we experienced last year, we can bring them all before the Lord, knowing that His mercies are fresh and abundant for us today.

As your pastor, I encourage you to take time this week to reflect on two simple questions:

**What is God calling me to let go of?**

Maybe it's a lingering hurt, a sinful habit, or a burden you've carried alone for too long. The Bible tells us to "cast our cares on the Lord because He cares for us" (1 Peter 5:7). Trust that His grace is sufficient to help you release what's weighing you down.

**What is God calling me to take up?**

Perhaps He's nudging you toward deeper prayer, more consistent time in the Word, or serving in a new way within our church or community. Maybe it's reaching out to someone in need or simply being more intentional in showing Christ's love to those around you. And definitely it's a challenge to become the disciple He calls you to be.

As a church, we have an incredible opportunity to walk this journey together. Very soon, we will be launching **Life to Life Discipleship**. This is a process which will enable us to have genuine discipling conversations with others that are faithful and natural. This experience will change hearts and enable us to live out the Great Commission in our lives as individuals and as a congregation. There are several leaders who have been devoted to preparing for this process and are almost ready to launch. Thanks to the NALC and our Vicar Billie, this is about to become a lived reality here at St. John's. I can't wait to see what the Holy Spirit will do in us.

Let's make this a year of renewal, faithfulness, and love. Let's worship with hearts that are expectant, serve with hands that are willing, and grow as a community that reflects the light of Christ to Grove City and beyond.

Remember, we don't walk into this year alone. The same God who has been faithful through all of history walks with us into every tomorrow. His promises are sure, and His power is unchanging.

May this year be one where we embrace the truth of **Philippians 3:13-14**:

*"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,  
I press on toward the goal to win the prize  
for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

I'm praying for you and your families. Let's press on together in faith, trusting in His unending love and faithfulness.

*Looking forward in Faith,*

*Pastor Patti*