

# NEWS NOTES

January 17-18, 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314 | [www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org) | [secretary@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsgc.org)

**Pastor Patti Morlock** | (740) 405-1548 | [pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org)

**Intern Billie Fisch** | [bfisch@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:bfisch@stjohnsgc.org)

**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: *David and Lisa Stallard*  
ND: *Sheryl Fraley*

### **Acolytes**

8:15am: *Ben Previts, Esmé Wanner*  
11:00am: *Lukas Althoff, Nick Althoff*

### **Readers**

4:00pm: *Karen Colwell*

8:15am: *Ann Jones*

11:00am: *Bonnie Swanson*

*Contemporary: Hope and Stephen Katterhenrich*

### **Altar Guild**

*David and Lisa Stallard*

*Paul and Pam Wittenberg*

*Contemporary: Theresa Wahl*

### **Ushers**

4:00pm: *Michael Gibboney, Steve Henry*  
8:15am: *Steve Marcum, David Sweeny, Hunter Thompson*

11:00am: *Dave Clark, Dennis Imbrock, Tom Lang, Larry Sutton*

### **Communion Assistants**

4:00pm: *Bill Woodgeard*  
8:15am: *Ann Jones, Paul Wittenberg*  
11:00am: *Lynda Berry, Gloria Biggs, Linda Diehl*

*Contemporary: Jackie Rutan, Brad and Theresa Wahl*

**Lessons Today: Isaiah 49:1-7;  
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10; John 1:29-42.**

## **DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** In memory of my loving husband, Richard Davis, for our 72nd wedding anniversary on the 29th of January. Given by Vi Davis.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** In honor of Truman's 13th birthday. Given by his parents and Corban.

**PULPIT FLOWERS:** In loving memory of Emerson Braskett on his birthday. Given by the Braskett family.

**BULLETINS:** Given by Rhonda Maynard.

## **PERSONAL NEWS**

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of **Jane Stenerson**, who passed away on January 10, 2026. All who grieve are in our hearts and prayers.

**NOTES OF THANKS** - I want to acknowledge and thank all the people that sent cards and monetary gifts in memory of my wife, Nancy Patzer. It means so much to me. Thank you. ~ Carl Patzer.

## **TODAY'S NEWS**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!** We are pleased to announce that the following individuals have recently joined our congregation:

Mark Brandt	Elizabeth Brandt	Hannah Carroll
Wyatt Brandt	Toni Goldhardt	Andrew Goldhardt
Kenneth Goldhardt	Nathan Weber	Amanda Weber
Margaret Weber	Samuel Weber	Cheryl Normoyle
Alec Thomas	Jeremy Gonsowski	Amanda Gonsowski
Brycen Gonsowski	Connor Gonsowski	Debbie Ashley

We thank God for guiding them to our church and are grateful to welcome them into our church family. Please take a moment to extend a warm greeting and help make them feel at home as we continue to worship and serve together.

## **JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting is this Sunday, January 18 at 12pm in the FLC.

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** We will be collecting monies (cash and checks) for Souper Bowl of Caring on **February 7th and 8th at all the worship services**. Your cash donations will be used to purchase and deliver food to the Grove City Food Pantry. Checks made out to "St. John's Lutheran" will be deposited and one check sent to the LSS Food Pantry. Please note in the check memo: *Souper Bowl of Caring*. Look for students at the doors on that Sunday and help end hunger in our local community! If you want to learn more, go to [www.tacklehunger.org](http://www.tacklehunger.org). *Thank you!*





**SHROVE TUESDAY CHRIS CAKES:** Join us in celebration of Shrove Tuesday! There will be a tossing of pancakes by Chris Cakes in the Family Life Center from **5:30pm–7:30pm on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** at a special dinner sponsored by St. John's Mexico Missions. The pancakes will be delicious and the fellowship fantastic! Presale tickets are \$6.00, but the price goes to \$7.00 at the door. Get your tickets early and join us for this special event! Contact Christina at 614-519-8092 or Gini at [grogers@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:grogers@stjohnsgc.org) with any questions.

**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 25th.

**Monday, January 19**

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 20—Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4**

What was the darkness that the people have walked in?

What or who would cause this darkness to be bathed in light?

**Wednesday, January 21—Reading: Psalm 27**

What qualities of God does David recall?

How do these qualities strengthen your faith?

**Thursday, January 22—Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

How does the world define wisdom?

Is this the same or different from biblical wisdom? If different, then how so?

**Friday, January 23—Reading: Matthew 4:12-23**

Think about your answer from Tuesday's reading. How does this passage shape your understanding of that one?

In the same vein, how does that passage shape your understanding of this one?

**Saturday, January 24—Please take a moment to pray for those who will take part in Life-to-Life Discipleship next Saturday, January 24.**

Merciful Lord, we ask that you fill our hearts to capacity this weekend. Grant the leaders of Life-to-Life peace of mind. Let many come to life change because of the accountability presented in Life-to-Life. Create clean hearts within us, Lord. In Jesus' Name, **Amen.**

**LIFE-TO-LIFE DISCIPLESHP 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, or Lectern is a wonderful way to remember or honor loved ones. Reserve your date on the Altar Flower Chart in the Parish Entrance. We presently have flower dedication openings for all of February. Altar Flowers are \$25.00 per vase, payable to St. John's Lutheran Church. Contact your florist regarding costs for Pulpit or Lectern vases. St. John's recommends Rita at Prairie Flowers and Gifts for arrangements (614-701-8902). Please direct questions to Lesa Corbin at 614-530-4984.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** will be held on **Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and use sponsor code: StJohnsGC.



**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](mailto:l.stallard15@gmail.com).

**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 [whytekz@gmail.com](mailto:whytekz@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@stjohnsgc.org).

## ☒ YOUTH NEWS ☒

***Friendly reminder: youth groups will NOT meet if South-Western City Schools are cancelled for inclement weather.***

**ADVENTURE CLUB (age 4—4<sup>th</sup> graders) and FAITH TREK (5<sup>th</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> 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 (7<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org) and Energizers may connect with Gini Rogers at [grovers@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:grovers@stjohnsgc.org) with any questions.

**Children's Choir** meets on 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!

# To Do Your Will

Find the 36 **bold** words from Psalm 40:6–11 (ESV)

Psalm of the Day  
Second Sunday after Epiphany

U F G E N O I T A V L A S N O  
W S A C O N C E A L E D W W J  
O C P I I W I S O W G E E I W  
R O U F T V W R X R T R N T X  
J M R I A H C G X I S I N H S  
E E Z R G S F L B T A U G I G  
V R R C E D U U H T F Q C N D  
E C N A R E V I L E D E I H J  
R Y E S G L V I R N A R Z O F  
Z N D E N I A R T S E R U X U  
T W D V O G S W E F T S T R I  
N S I O C H B U F S S A S L C  
R E H L G T H O N N E K O P S  
U S P I L E M U O R A R X X G  
B E H O L D A L G K D V P F Z

In **sacrifice** and offering you have not **delighted**, but you have given me an **open ear**. **Burnt offering** and **sin offering** you have not **required**. Then I said, “**Behold**, I have **come**; in the **scroll** of the **book** it is **written** of me: I delight to do your **will**, O my **God**; your **law** is **within my heart**.” I have told the **glad news** of **deliverance** in the **great congregation**; behold, I have not **restrained** my lips, as you know, O **LORD**. I have not **hidden** your **deliverance** within my heart; I have **spoken** of your **faithfulness** and your **salvation**; I have not **concealed** your **steadfast love** and your **faithfulness** from the great congregation. As for you, O **LORD**, you will not restrain your **mercy** from me; your **steadfast love** and your **faithfulness** will **ever preserve** me!

# STEWARDSHIP

ATTENDANCE

January 11 - 361

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](http://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 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)

## MONDAY, JANUARY 19

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY**  
9:30am BSF Leaders (Zoom)  
12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)  
6:00pm Call Team (204)  
6:30pm PEACE Puppets (FLC)  
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)  
7:30pm IQA Bible Study (Zoom)

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Sanc)  
9:30am Quilters (103-4)  
12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive (FLC)  
5:50pm Friends of the Library (204)  
6:30pm Blue Ribbon 4-H (FLC)  
7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (103-4)

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

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 22

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)  
2:00pm Small Group (Café)  
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 23

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

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

**1:00pm LIFE TO LIFE KICK-OFF (FLC)**  
4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)  
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

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)  
5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)  
6:00pm Saddles n Such 4-H (FH)

**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!**