

NEWS NOTES

January 24-25, 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 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: Cheryl Thompson
ND: Carol Rich

Acolytes

8:15am: Corban Allman, Addy
Gottshall

11:00am: Volunteers needed

Readers

4:00pm: Lisa Dubos

8:15am: Karen Bentley

11:00am: Christine Hank

Contemporary: Emma Grossman, Beth
Katterhenrich

Altar Guild

Lynda Berry, Sheila Holcomb, Don and
Diane Carducci

Gloria Biggs

Contemporary: Rachel Katterhenrich

Ushers

4:00pm: Michael Gibboney, Steve
Henry

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

11:00am: Bill Diehl, George Gonsowski,
Larry Sutton, Dave Witt

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: David Sweeley

8:15am: Karen Bentley, Betty Lewis

11:00am: Linda Diehl, Christine Hank,
Lisa Hartig

Contemporary: Karrie Clark, Beth
Katterhenrich, Rachel
Katterhenrich

Lessons Today:

Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18;

Matthew 4:12-23

☪ TODAY'S NEWS ☪

NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING IN FEBRUARY: You asked and we have delivered! A new Bible study will be launched on **Thursday, February 5, 2026**, as we study the Parables of Jesus. Once again, we will meet at 3pm and 6pm in order to accommodate as many as who would like to attend. We will meet at 3pm in 103-4, but due to scheduling conflicts, the 6pm 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. RSVP on the salmon sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate, or call or email the church and let the office know you will be attending. Once again, I look forward to delving deep into the Word of God with you and sharing our stories of faith together.

LIFE-TO-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP: If you could not attend the Life-to-Life Kickoff Event and would like to be part of a Life-to-Life Group, the group sign-up sheets will be available this week on the bulletin board across from the pastor's office. Groups will begin meeting the week of February 8th. Please see Vicar Billie Fisch for a workbook. We are asking that if you are able, that you please donate \$20 for the cost of the workbook. Thank you.

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. **We currently have openings throughout February!** Reserve your date on the Altar Flowers Chart in the Parish Entrance. Please direct questions to Lesa Corbin at 614-530-4984.

SOUP SUPPERS: Please join us for our Soup Suppers between 5:30-6:15pm on Wednesdays in the Family Life Center before our Lenten services starting on Wednesday, February 25. Come break bread together as a church community. If you would like to donate soup or bread, or are willing to help serve, please contact Megan Grossman, 614-905-2629 or mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org.

BLANKETS OF LOVE 2026: Blankets of Love is back! This year's student leader is Cordelia Wanner, a seventh grader with a caring servant's heart. During the month of February, we are asking groups or families to sponsor a Bed Brigade Blessing Bag (with the blanket and a sheet set), tie a blanket, or both! Then the Blessing Bags will be given to the Bed Brigade for their deliveries. If your group or family would like to participate, contact Cordelia Wanner or Megan Grossman. Thanks for helping make a child's winter snuggly and warm!

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. *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 17th** 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 with any questions.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE FOOD DRIVE: *Do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. ~ Hebrews 13-16.* Brothers and sisters, we ask for your help to collect non-perishable food items during the season of Lent. All donations will benefit the Grove City Area Food Pantry and will help fight hunger right here in Grove City and our surrounding community.

A table will be set up in the Welcome Area inside the North entrance to collect all of your donations beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18. The Food Drive will run throughout Lent until Wednesday, March 25. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. Most needed items are:

Pasta Potato Sides Cereal Peanut Butter Jelly/Jam
Canned Meat Soup/Stew Canned Vegetables Monetary Donations

The Lenten Food Drive is a project of the Elizabeth Circle during St. John’s Year of Compassion 2025-26. Questions? Contact Amy at 614-496-2890 or amyshaw43123@gmail.com.

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.

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, February 1st.

Monday, January 26

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 27—Reading: Micah 6:1-8

- How do you do justice?
- How do you love kindness?
- Do you walk humbly with your God? How so?

Wednesday, January 28—Reading: Psalm 15

- Will we ever be able to fulfill all of these characteristics?
- If not, then who can?

Thursday, January 29—Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

- How does it make you feel to know that God chose the lowly instead of the rich?
- Does this change your perspective and drive with the accomplishments of this world?

Friday, January 30—Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

- The word translated "blessed" in this section can also be translated as "happy". Have you ever felt happy or blessed in any of the situations in this passage?

Saturday, January 31—Please take a moment to pray for those who will be at the NALC Clergy Retreat this week. Also, please continue to pray for our Call Committee and that God would guide the best pastor for our church. Let it be someone who will guide the church in the direction of being God's hands and feet.

Lord, please be with our pastors. Help them to be rejuvenated by this week. Help us to remember that they, just like us, are human. Help us to remember that you call us all, pastors included, to sabbath and put You and family first. Please guide us to a pastor who will do just that. Help guide the best Senior pastor to us. Help this person be one who will keep us growing. In Jesus' Name, **Amen.**

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

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 South-Western 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 go through Life-to-Life Discipleship training! 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 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!

Whom Shall I Fear?

Find the 33 bold words from Psalm 27:1–5 (ESV)

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

The LORD is my **light** and my **salvation**; whom shall I **fear**? The LORD is the **stronghold** of my **life**; of whom shall I be **afraid**? When **evildoers assail** me to eat up my flesh, my **adversaries** and **foes**, it is they who **stumble** and **fall**. Though an **army encamp** against me, my **heart** shall not fear; though **war** arise against me, yet I will be **confident**. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I **seek** after: that I may **dwell** in the **house** of the **LORD** all the days of my life, to **gaze** upon the **beauty** of the LORD and to **inquire** in his **temple**. For he will **hide** me in his **shelter** in the day of **trouble**; he will conceal me under the cover of his **tent**; he will **lift** me **high** upon a **rock**.

☪ STEWARDSHIP ☪

ATTENDANCE **January 17 - 295**

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 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)

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

9:30am BSF Leaders
12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
6:00pm Call Team (204)
6:00pm Exercise Class (FLC)
6:00pm Small Group (102)
6:30pm PEACE Puppets (FLC)
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)
7:30pm IQA Bible Study (Zoom)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Sanc)
9:30am Quilters (103-4)
6:00pm Girl Scouts #6679 (FH)
6:00pm Internship Team (Lib)
6:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (103-4)
7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (FLC)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

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 29

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 30

9:30am Bible Study (103-4)
2:00pm Private Event (101)
3:00pm Men's Chorale (Sanc)
6:00pm Prayers and Pins (off-site)
8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30am Sunday School Hour
11:00am Contemporary Worship
(FLC)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
12:15pm Confirmation Parent Mtg.
(103-4)
5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

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