

# NEWS NOTES

January 31—February 1, 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 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: Linda Diehl

ND: Carol Rich

### Acolytes

8:15am: Volunteers needed

11:00am: Eva Counts

### Readers

4:00pm: Holly Starr

8:15am: Kathy Myers

11:00am: Gary Smith

Contemporary: Stephen Katterhenrich,  
Kate Shrum

### Altar Guild

Don and Diane Carducci

Donna Linder

Contemporary: Rachel Katterhenrich

### Ushers

4:00pm: Michael Gibboney, Steve Henry

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

11:00am: Don Carducci, Dave Clark, Bill  
Diehl, Larry Sutton

### Communion Assistants

4:00pm: Lisa Dubos

8:15am: Barb Hill, Teresa Orahod

11:00am: Diane Carducci, Brenda Schultz,  
Dan Yeater

Contemporary: Gini Rogers, Jennifer  
Shade, Kate Shrum

### Lessons Today:

Micah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;

Matthew 5:1-12

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

**LECTERN FLOWERS:** In loving memory of my grandparents, Tom and Norma Phelps, who will always be a huge part in my heart. Given by Kathryn Mullins.

**BULLETINS:** Given by Ike and Shelah Stage.

**☞ PERSONAL NEWS ☞**

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of **Herb Weisenberger**, who passed away on January 23, 2026; and to the family and friends of **Rita Knore**, sister in law of Marilyn Weisenberger and Pam Castle, who passed away on January 25, 2026. All who grieve are in our hearts and prayers.

**☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞**

**PLEASE NOTE:** there will be no contemporary worship service **Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**.

**NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING IN FEBRUARY:** 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 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 would like to be part of a Life-to-Life Group, the group sign-up sheets will be available after each service this weekend on a table in the North Entrance. Groups will begin meeting the week of February 8<sup>th</sup>. Please see Vicar Billie Fisch for a workbook. We are asking that if you are able to please donate \$20 for the cost of the workbook. Thank you.

**HOMEBOUND COMMUNION TEAM:** On the first Sunday of each month this team comes to receive a Holy Communion kit. The distribution of home communion is an extension of the Lord's Supper and is for those who are unable to be present at the celebration of the congregation. We bring to them the same bread of life and the same cup of blessing so that they may be strengthened through their participation in the body of Christ. Let us be mindful and grateful for this ministry.

**EAGLE DEADLINE** is nearing! Please submit your article by noon on **February 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**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.

**LAY READERS** are needed for the 8:15am and 11:00am worship services from February through June. 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.

**Assisting Opportunities**  
IN  
**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

**GREETERS NEEDED** for traditional services. We kindly request volunteers for 4pm and 8:15am to contact the office, 614-875-2314, and for 11am greeters to contact Linda Diehl, 614-906-1408.

**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.



**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. **We presently have flower dedication openings for February.** Reserve your date on the Altar Flower Chart in the Parish Entrance. 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.

**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](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.

**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 and are willing to help serve, please contact Megan Grossman, 614-905-2629 or [mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org).

**OWLS EVENT FEBRUARY 20, 2026:** Our program this month will sound familiar to some of you because we have had the pleasure of hosting our speaker a few times over the past few years. Teri Ruslander is Elder Services Coordinator for Grove City and is a part of the police department. She retired from the department a few years ago and is now an asset for our most vulnerable citizens. She will share the current financial scams making their way around the country, how to recognize and respond to these schemes and what to do if you become a victim. She is a very entertaining guest and is a true crowd pleaser. If you join us in February, you will not be disappointed. We hope you join us!

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!

**WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will hold its next meetings on **Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am and on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Rooms 103-4.** Everyone is welcome. Bring your knitting/crochet materials and any completed shawls to be blessed with prayer. Anyone can learn to knit or crochet with our help! For more info call Glenda at 614-352-5955 or Diana at 614-271-5775.

**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 February 9<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**PROPERTY TEAM MEMBERS** meet the first Monday of the month at 10am. 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.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Please check the Lost & Found bin located in the North Entrance coat area if you have lost or found any items in the church. For small items, such as rings, earrings, or headphones, please check with the office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm. Eyeglasses may be donated after several weeks.

**USED EYEGLASSES** are being collected for donation to Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers located throughout the world. The used glasses are repaired and distributed to those in need in developing countries. You can donate your used eyeglasses in the drop boxes in the second-floor hallway just outside of the Library. Please remove them from their sleeves, cases, or boxes prior to donation.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** will be held on **Tuesday, February 24<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 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](mailto:secretary@stjohnsgc.org). Requests are updated on a weekly basis and should be turned in by Monday mornings.

**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 8th.

**Monday, February 2**

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, February 3—Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12**

Do you ever ask God to reveal your sins? Do you fear the answer? If so, do you fear that He will reveal something that you don't want to change? Know that if He does reveal something to you, that He still loves you and wants to forgive you. He wants you to give up those things so that you can be closer to Him.

**Wednesday, February 4—Reading: Psalm 112:1-10**

Verse 4 says, "Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful and upright." What a wonderful description of our savior. Pray today that light would dawn among us as we spread the good news about Jesus.

**Thursday, February 5—Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-6**

How is the wisdom of our age different from the Wisdom of the Lord?

**Friday, February 6—Reading: Matthew 5:13-20**

Do you live your life as a light on the hill or a light hidden?  
What can you do to let your light shine more before others?

**Saturday, February 7**

Please take a moment to pray for our services this coming weekend, and that all people around the world would come to know Christ.

Lord, please guide our pastors and our vicar as they preach Your Word tomorrow. Help us to be attentive and soften our hearts to listen to what You would have for us. Help us to take whatever action You call us to, not being complacent, but running after You always. In Jesus' Name, **Amen.**

**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.

**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.**

**RAISE RIGHT gift card orders are placed on the first Tuesday of every month.** You can use these cards personally and they also make great gifts. Talk to Pam Wittenberg on how you can order physical cards and/or order e-gift cards and how to re-load your cards online. Raise Right gives a percentage for each card ordered back to St. John's. Monies raised help to offset the costs of the children and youth programming that is not covered by the church budget. *Thanks for your support!*

**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](mailto:dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org) and Energizers may connect with Gini Rogers at [rogers@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:rogers@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!

A decorative border made of colorful LEGO bricks (red, blue, green, yellow) surrounds the text. The text is centered and reads:

**Join us for LEGO Club!**

The next meeting date is **Sunday, February 15.**

Come have lunch with us, hear a story from the LEGO Bible, and play and build with LEGO blocks! We'll meet in the FLC at 12:30pm and stay until 2pm.

Lunch is provided! If you're able to, please RSVP to help us have the right amount of food. Tell Jen Mitchell, Stephanie Potokar, or Christina Allman.

## ☞ STEWARDSHIP ☞

**ATTENDANCE**

**Saturday, January 24**

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**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.
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### **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, 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)
- 6:00pm Saddles n Such 4-H (FH)

## **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

- 9:30am BSF Leaders
- 10:00am Property Team (204)
- 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
- 6:00pm Call Team (204)
- 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle (103-4)
- 6:30pm PEACE Puppets (FLC)
- 7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)
- 7:30pm IQA Bible Study (Zoom)

## **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

### **RAISE RIGHT ORDERS DUE**

- 7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Sanc)
- 9:30am Quilters (103-4)
- 6:00pm Internship Team (Lib)
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (FLC)
- 7:00pm SW Historical Society (103-4)

## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

- 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, FEBRUARY 5**

- 8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
- 1:00pm Small Group (Café)
- 3:00pm Bulletin Team (Lib)
- 3:00pm Parables of Jesus (103-4)
- 5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)
- 5:45pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek
- 6:00pm Parables of Jesus (204)
- 6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
- 8:00pm Dartball (away)

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

- 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, FEBRUARY 7**

### **SOUPER BOWL WEEKEND**

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

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

### **SOUPER BOWL WEEKEND**

- 8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 9:30am Sunday School Hour
- 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
- 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
- 1:00pm Life to Life Small Group (103-4)
- 5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

No Contemporary Worship  
will be held on Sunday, February 8.  
Please join us for Traditional Worship!

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