

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



January 2012

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Mission Statement: We are called by God to be the light of the world. We are to go forth and show Jesus' love and forgiveness through loving care for all God's creation.

Library Contest

The church library is having a contest. This will take place February, March and April. Each month will have a different age group. The age groups will be:



February-Nursery through 1st grade & adults

March-2nd grade through 4th grade

April-5th grade through 8th grade.

Adults can receive credit in two ways--on their own or if they read or watch a movie with a younger child. There will be a sheet by the library card file to record your name and title of item each time you are finished. These can be books, CD's, DVD's, and videos. When checking out library items sign and date card found in item pocket and place card in library card file box. When you are finished place book in "return basket."



Remember, to receive credit record your name and item title on the contest sheet.

The person that participates with the most items during that month will receive a prize. If you have any questions about the contest call Laurel at the church office-423-7788.

Singles Club

A singles club is in the works. Watch the bulletin for more information and for an upcoming meeting date at Conley's.

Camp Luther Is Coming

Mark your Calendar for January 18th at 6:30 PM "Scruffy" from Camp Luther will be visiting during weekday school to bring some excitement to the children and show them what going to Camp Luther is all about. If you would like more information about Camp Luther come and learn firsthand what opportunities there are for all ages throughout the year.



Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 PM in the church sanctuary. Copies of the annual report will be available in the narthex for review the weekend of January 7 & 8 and January 14 & 15. If you come to the meeting please bring your copy along with you.

Fellowship Sunday

If you would like to serve for Fellowship Sunday after church services please sign up on the 2012 sheet located on the north bulletin board.



Fellowship Sunday is the second Sunday of each month. Please bring bars or cookies and serve coffee.

Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2012 offering envelopes in your mailbox downstairs. If you have multiple members in your family who receive envelopes please look for these on the top shelf of the mailboxes. Thank you again for putting your first and last name on your envelopes. Your cooperation is appreciated!

Thank You

Thank you to all that helped make the Children's Christmas service on Dec 11th such a success. A special thank you to Donna Weber and Sandra Sweeny for our music, John Sandberg for the extraordinary back ground and Tina Miller who helped make it all possible.



Christmas Decorating Thank You

Many thanks to people involved with the church Christmas Decorating:

Two altar trees plus outdoor trees and boughs donated by Donald and Arlene Hess; Les Heindl and Jerry Swen for setting up the two altar trees; Mona and Les Heindl for outdoor decorating; Jon Sandberg for creating the nativity scenes. Interior Decorators: Marcia Doescher, Marion Oleson, Nathalie Reinke, Rose and Jerry Schimke, and Donna and Jerry Strack.

Christmas Families Thank You

Thank you to the members of the congregation who purchased gifts and/or donated money for the families' Christmas dinners. You donated \$175.00 for the families which was used to purchase \$50.00 gift certificates for each family to Aldi's. The remaining \$25.00 was donated to Hope's Door for their hat/mitten fund. Thank you Ladies Evening Guild for your \$75.00 gift which was used to purchase three IGA Scrip gift certificates. Thank you to the ladies who made the three beautiful quilts for

the families. Thank you everyone for making this an amazing Christmas for these three families. Your generosity brought tears to Jeannette, who heads up this daunting task of arranging for donations for needy families. We received big hugs in your behalf. HAVE A BLESSED' NEW YEAR!..... Human Care Board.

Bethesda Thrift Shop

Happy New Year from all the volunteers at the Bethesda Thrift Shop. We pray that the new year will be a blessing for you and for our store. Your support will help. We will continue to have various sale offerings each month beginning with a 50% off sale on yellow-tagged clothing and shoes beginning January 9. We could use some new volunteers as cashiers or as sorters and pricers in the back room. Try to get a group of 3-4 together and volunteer for a 3-4 hour period once or twice a month. Stop by at the store or call Chuck at 421-3477. In January we also begin our Winter Store Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thur. and Friday. Saturday remains at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and we are closed on Sundays.

Evangelism

Rejoice in the Lord.
Rejoicing in the Lord
lifts our spirits,
draws us back to Him
by thankfulness,
reminds us of how
much better it is to
look forward
than backward.



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort.

Second Corinthians 1:3

Thank You

Giving and sharing is in the hearts of St. John members throughout the year, and the spirit of Christmas is reflected even brighter during this Christmas season!

St. John's "Cookie and Candy Shoppe" once again came to life on Saturday, December 10th! This was the 17th year that the best Cooks, Bakers, and Candy Makers produced the best tasting, most beautiful and tastiest sweet items possible!

Everyone involved in the project is to be thanked for sharing of his or her time and talents! This yearly holiday event could not have taken place without the generosity of all the parishioners of St. John. It did not take too long before the tables were nearly empty—truly a sign of the quality of the items donated! The profits from this church-wide "Sweet Event" will be used for church projects.

The Ladies Evening Guild organizes this tasty event and would like to extend special thanks to the "auxiliary" members for the help in set-up and take down of the tables and the signage, in addition to their help in Friday evening's preparations. The Ladies Aid is also to be included in special thanks for producing and frosting hundreds of cut-out cookies!

Taylor Vollert & Jennings Funeral Home, Ritchay Funeral Home, and Higgins Funeral Home donated the print advertising. Country Tots Child Development Center, WoodTrust Bank, Mailboxes & Parcel Depot, Bancroft Bank—Kellner and the Wisconsin Rapids Chamber of Commerce donated the marquee advertising. Thank you for promoting the Cookie Walk!

Thank you again and we wish you a Christ-centered Christmas!

P.S.

*The "Cookie and Candy Shoppe"
Is planning on re-opening for the 18th season on
Saturday, December 8, 2012*