

# St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



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## January 2015

**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.

### Pancake Breakfast

Join us after the Sunday, January 4 service for our pancake breakfast.

Serving from 10:30 AM to Noon. The breakfast will be a free will offering and proceeds will go to

“Journey to The Cross” a spring event at St. John reliving Jesus' last days on earth from Palm Sunday to Easter. If you are unable to attend and would like to make a monetary donation envelopes marked “Pancake Breakfast” are available in the narthex and can be placed in the collection plate. Thank You



### Mark Bible Study

We will begin the study of Mark on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 pm.

If you signed up in advance for a study guide, it is in your mailbox. If you still need to pay, please enclose \$8.00 in an envelope marked “Mark Bible Study” and place in the offering plate or drop off at the office. If you haven't signed up, but would still like to join us you are welcome; we will see you on January 5<sup>th</sup>.



**New Bible Study Series**

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

We will resume our Sunday morning Bible Study on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:05 am. We will spend about 4 weeks studying the Book of Ruth. All are welcome to join us.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held following the morning service on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. All members are encouraged to join us. The Annual Reports will be available at the meeting, and the weekend before, for you to review in advance of the meeting.

### Library Committee Thank You

The library committee would like to thank all those who supported our annual book sale in October. We would like to thank everyone who donated items throughout the year as well as those



who made purchases at the sale. This year was the first year that we had the sale upstairs in the narthex and it worked out very well. Profits from the sale have been used to purchase new items and these items are ready and waiting to be checked out. Stop by our new library—media room and see what we have to offer that may be of interest to you.

### Advent by Candlelight

Thank you to everyone who attended our third annual Advent by Candlelight! We are very grateful to all who participated in making this an afternoon to focus on the coming of our Savior. Please know this event would not be a success without your help. King David wrote in Psalm 32:11 “Be glad in the Lord; and rejoice.” This is our wish for you this Christmas Season and the New Year! Thank you! Advent by Candlelight Committee

## Funeral Thank You

Thank you to our generous congregation of St John for the giving response to a call of a need for a donation of help, hot dishes, salads, desserts etc. to a funeral. The families are so very grateful for your caring. Also thank you to Gail Bossingham and Diane Flick (co-chairpersons of group 1) and Barbara Lundquist and Judy Ontl (co-chairpersons of group 4) of the funeral groups for their organization, set-up, and serving of the food. Also to the volunteers that helped. The many hands make a BIG job a shared task. The family of Kelley Steinke expressed much appreciation!

Thank you to our generous congregation of St John for the giving response to a call of a need for a donation of help, hot dishes, salads, desserts etc. to a funeral. The families are so very grateful for your caring. Also Thank you to Marion Oleson and Mona Heindl (co-chairpersons of group 2) of the funeral groups for their organization, set-up, and serving of the food. Also to the volunteers that helped. The many hands make a BIG job a shared task. The family of Darlene Shuldt expressed much appreciation!

The family of August A. Henke would like to thank Pastor Ader and the congregation for the many prayers said on Augie's behalf. His 9 months given turned into 7 years. We would like to thank the funeral committee; Group 4 for setting up, serving our Chicken Dinner and providing desserts. A special Thank You to the Saturday evening congregation for always making Augie feel special and loved. God's Blessings – Emily Henke, Mike & Sandra Sweeney & family.

To all the children of Weekday School, Thank you for your shared sympathy note that was sent to me. It was something very special to me. Love in Christ – Sandra Sweeney



## Hopes Door

The generosity of our St. John Congregation is very impressive! This year you responded with enthusiasm to the needs and wishes of the three families we had from Hope's Door. Two families had six members each and one family of nine members. We were able to take 3 wonderful presents to each family member. Plus, we were able to give each family a \$25 gift card to help them purchase meat for their thanksgiving meal. Also with your donations of money we were able to give each family \$150.00 in script to purchase food for their Christmas meals and more. Thank you to the Week-day School for making the fleece throws. Each child on the list received a special tied fleece throw made just for them. THANK YOU!

## Cookie Walk

The day dawned very foggy and 35 degrees on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Cookie Walk Day!!.



The fog did not slow down the traffic for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual St. John Cookie and Candy Walk. The sale began at 9 AM with many shoppers waiting at the door!. In a short time the tables were being emptied, and by 11 AM it was time to close the 2014 Cookie and Candy Shoppe!!.

Truly a success – Sell-out! A Special **Thank you** to those who baked and cooked goodies for the sale. A huge **Thank you** to all who came to help set-up and takedown for the event. This event would not be the great success it has become without the generous donations from the entire congregation!!. St. John family has always been a caring and giving congregation and was once again demonstrated for the Cookie Walk. Monies from the sale will be used for a church-wide project. Thank you again to all who were involved in this Christmas-time sweet event!

**The St. John Cookie and Candy Shoppe will again be open on Saturday, December 12, 2015.** - start choosing some new favorite recipes for the 2015 Christmas season.



## Church Decorating

Many thanks to the people involved with decorating the church for Christmas. Thank you to Mona & Les Heindl for outdoor decorating; Jon Sandberg for creating the nativity scenes and Bill Coley for decorating the outdoor tree located next to the Church sign. Thank you to Marcia Doescher, Nathalie Reinke and Donna & Jerry Strack for the interior decorating and to Marion Oleson for decorating the beautiful tree in the Narthex and Mona & Les Heindl for setting up the giving tree.



## Thank You From the Board of Education

December is always a busy month and we have been fortunate enough to have many give of their time and offer donations to help support the various activities that the weekday school has been involved with. During the first week of advent service the children helped with making special tie blankets for our Christmas families. A special thank you to Pastor Ader for shopping for the materials and to those that helped prepare the blankets for the children to finish.

We had a great turn out for the Children's program and with the special help of Sandra Sweeney who makes the music of the program so special. As well as big thank you to the parents who donated to our gift jar sales that help provide support to our programs that are part of St John's Weekday school.

## Knit Club

The knit club will now meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM in the lower level of church. We meet September thru June. We are knitting prayer shawls, hat's and scarves and baby items (blankets, caps and sweaters). These items go to Hope's Door and to Compassionate Friends group here at St. John. We have a small group and we would welcome any new knitters! See you on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM!



## Compassionate Friends

We will be making shut-in visits on the third Wednesday of every month. We will meet at church at 9:00 AM, organize ourselves and leave from there. Please let us know if you have a need for a visit for yourself or a loved one. We will meet on Wednesday, January 21 at 9:00 AM at church.



## Life Circles

Life Circles will meet at the Olympic for lunch at Noon on Jan. 8th. After lunch we will go to the ODC and take a tour there. They are very excited to show us their facility! We invite all church members, friends and relatives to join us. See you there!

## Scrip Scrap Corner

Thank you for purchasing Scrip in 2014! Your continued support of the Scrip program is truly appreciated! New to Scrip—Panda Express \$25 at 8%. Our profit total for December was \$304.30.

## Bethesda Thrift Shop

The 120 volunteers from the Bethesda Thrift Shop in the Rapids Mall want to wish you all a very Joy-filled New Year! As we begin another year we want to thank you all for your support by shopping at our store. We had a very successful year and many lives of our intellectually and physically handicapped folks we serve were enhanced by your support of the Bethesda Thrift Shop. Please continue that support and ask others to come and shop with you. January sales include 50% off on Yellow-tagged clothing and special sales on items that we need to clear out. Thanks again!



## Lutheran Hour Broadcast

If you would like to sponsor the Lutheran Hour on WFHR 1320 AM at 9:00 AM please call the radio station at 715-424-1300 and ask for Bob or Chuck. Previously we had announced that WFHR would no longer be broadcasting the Lutheran Hour. As we become informed about the situation we will include updates.

The Lutheran Hour will be on the following radio stations on Sunday: WAXX 104.5 FM at 6:30 a.m.; WDLB 1450 AM at 8 a.m.; WDUX 92.7 FM at 8 a.m.; WSAU 99.9 FM at 8:30 a.m.; and WRVM 91.3 FM, 94.3 FM or 101.3 FM at 10 a.m.

January 4

### "Gospel Power for Personal Patience"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz  
Jesus teaches us to be patient and wait with hope in God's promises. (Luke 2:40-52)

January 11

### "Are You Qualified?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz  
God qualifies us for eternal life through our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. (Romans 6:1-11)

January 18

### "The Antidote"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz  
Jesus is the antidote for our cynicism and doubt. (John 1:43-51)

January 25

### "Just the Facts"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus  
God's truth, as revealed in the Bible, remains true regardless of whether anyone believes it or not. (Isaiah 5:20-21)



# One Baptism

The "one" theme of Ephesians 4:4-6 assures us that we need to be baptized only once. Yet a relationship with God involves approaching him with a humble heart each day.

*Directions: Inside the 1, fill in words using the spaces as a guide. Then unscramble the circled and boxed letters to reveal John's message about baptism in Mark 1:4.*

hope		
Spirit		--- n --- nce
body		
baptism		--- v n ---
Lord		
Father		
God		

Answers: body, Spirit, hope, Lord, baptism, God, Father, repentance, forgiveness