

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



December 2016

REV. KEVIN K. ADER

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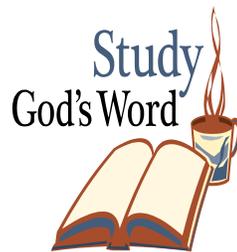
www.stjohnkellner.org

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.

Adult Bible Class

The Sunday morning Bible Class will be taking a short sabbatical until after the first of the year. We will resume our study in the Gospel Project: Chronological again beginning Jan. 8, 2017.

The Monday afternoon Bible Class will continue with its study of the Psalms through the month of December. Please note that we will not be meeting December 19th through January 2nd.



Epiphany Family Night

Join us on Wednesday, January 4, for an Epiphany Family Night of Fellowship, Food and Fun. Festivities begin with a light meal of hot dogs and all the fixin's at 6:00 p.m.

While we do a little quick clean-up our Weekday School students will practice some singing upstairs, then we will all join again downstairs for "Jesus BINGO: Epiphany Version". This was a super fun event last year so we hope you can join us again. Watch for the sign-up sheet and information in the upcoming weeks. You won't want to miss out on this, our second annual, Twelfth Day of Christmas celebration!



Chili Feed Update

Thank you to everyone who donated items or money toward the preparations of the Chili, Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, and to the great crew working the kitchen helping to prepare and serve. Thank you also for the wonderful selections of desserts to finish off the meal. We were able to raise \$250.00 to donate to American Heroes Café'

Fruit Basket Lists

The Ladies Aid will be putting together fruit baskets for members 75 years of age or older. If you or someone you know is not on the list and would like a fruit basket please notify the church office or the Ladies Aid. We don't want to miss anyone that qualifies for one! Thanks for helping us keep our list up to date. Ladies Aid



You may pick up your basket the weekend of December 17 and 18 after the services

Marlyn Alft, Jeanine Arneson, Mabel Behn, Joanne Behrend, Lee & Flora Bottensek, Harriet Brandt, Bill Coley, David & Dorothy Cook, John & Doreen Cook, Ron & Marcia Doescher, Jim Eberhardt, Gordon Eberhardt, Ardis Fredrick, Ronald Geiger, Grace Gilman, Robert Hanneman, Les & Mona Heindl, Eva Helke, Emily Henke, Chet James, Doug Kasten, Dick & Kathy Kertis, Jack Kester, Jerry & Bev Kirst, Arlene Knoll, Lorin & Carol Lutz, William & Eunice Matthews, Ray Monje, Pastor Paul Mueller, Laura Neinfeldt, Doris Oleson, Marion Oleson, Allan Ontl, Shirley Piekarski, Elaine Polansky, Lester Rabska, Nathalie Reinke, Charles & Darlene Rickman, Bertie Rosenthal, Gladys Sawaska, Jerry & Rose Schimke, Larry Shepard, Helen Schoenick, Donald & Ardel Schoenick, Howard Schuldt, Don & Betty Spurlock, Jerry & Donna Strack, Gene Timm, Robert Warren, Alice Witte, Jean Zeman and Dorothy Zimmerman.

Worship for Shut— Ins

Worship for Shut-Ins (WFSI) is a thirty-minute Christian worship experience



featuring classic hymns, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and a 10-minute message by Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod pastors. Beginning on June 28, 2015, RCCA will begin airing WFSI on Solarus Cable Channel 3 and Charter Cable Channel 985 on Sunday mornings at 6:30 am and Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am.

WFSI can also be seen on Stevens Point Community TV (Charter Cable Channel 984) at the following times: Mondays 12:30 pm, Tuesdays 2:00 pm, Thursdays 2:30 pm, Fridays 10:30 am and Saturdays at 11:00 am.

December 4, 2016 - Second Sunday in Advent

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7; **Old Testament:** Isaiah 11:1-10; **Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-12

“The Perfect Ruler” - Sermon Text: Isaiah 11:1-10 *by Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Concordia Theological Seminary - Fort Wayne, IN*

We know from history about imperfect rulers. Isaiah speaks about the perfect ruler: Jesus Christ. His rule means for you forgiveness, life, peace, and rest.

December 11, 2016 - Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm: Psalm 146; **Epistle:** James 5:7-11; **Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-15

“Discouraged Prophet?” – Sermon Text: Matthew 11:2-11 *by Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege, St. Paul Lutheran Church - Decatur, IN*

Could it be that John the Baptist was discouraged, even depressed? Some debate whether this is possible since he was the great way-preparer. Yet, after all, John was part of our fallen race, as was his discouraged

predecessor Elijah. As we face such discouragement and perhaps depression, we too have our faith reinforced by returning to the works and words of the Savior.

December 18, 2016 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

Psalm: Psalm 24; **Old Testament:** Isaiah 7:10-17; **Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-25

“Go Ahead...Ask!” - Sermon Text: Isaiah 7:10-17 *by Rev. William Mueller, Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Fort Wayne, IN*

Are we too timid to ask God the tough questions of life? Go ahead and ask...for He has something gracious to tell us!

December 25, 2016 – The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

Psalm: 2; **Epistle:** Hebrews 1:1-6; **Gospel:** John 1:1-14

“Joy To The World” - Sermon Text: John 1:1-14 *by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church - New Haven, IN*

The true joy of Christmas is the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. While we celebrate the gift of God's Son we remember the purpose of His coming, to save us all from the consequences of our sin so that we may “become the children of God.”

Door Collection

We will be taking up a door collection each weekend for the next 3 weekends (November 26 & 27, December 3 & 4 and December 10



DOOR

COLLECTION

& 11) to raise money to divide equally between the 3 families so they can purchase food for their Christmas meals. The members of St. John are very generous and giving people! The ornaments put on the “Giving Tree” have been taken off by you to purchase gifts for each family member. Marion Oleson has made a beautiful quilt for each of the families. Thank You – The Human Care Board

Bazaar Thank You

Saturday morning, October 29th was the date for the Annual Fall Harvest and Bake Sale. The day was warm and sunny, and when the doors opened, the waiting shoppers were greeted with a wide variety of homemade bakery and top-quality crafts, plus a great selection of home-canned goods and homegrown produce! All of these items were accompanied by the Youth Group's "Soups in-a-Jar". Raffle tickets for the amazing 29 baskets were a popular item! Baskets were prepared by individuals and families of the congregation as well as groups and organizations at St. John. Shoppers were invited to partake of the Bar-B-Que luncheon topped off with a delicious slice of pie prepared by the Ladies Aid. The Church-wide Fall Harvest and Bake Sale, organized by the Evening Guild, extend **"THANKS"** to all the congregational and community members who donated in any way to make this annual tradition a huge success! Special **THANKS** to David and Dorothy Cook for their donation of the many bushels of Apples used for applesauce and pies! **THANK YOU** is also sent to the Mortenson Brothers Farms for their generous donation of Beets! The monies raised at this event will be used in many forms to enhance the Lord's work in the congregation, community, and the world! **THANK YOU** again, whether you donated items, purchased goods, placed the information on a bulletin board, marquee or sponsored an advertisement in the newspaper, your support is greatly appreciated!



Evening Guild Christmas Party

Lake Aire Supper Club—
Thursday, December 1, 2016
Cocktails and Social Hour at
6:00PM Dinner at 7PM

Ladies Aid Christmas Party

The Ladies Aid would like to invite all ladies to their Christmas Party On Thursday, December 1, 2016 at noon. Bring a dish to pass and a \$5.00 gift.



Lutheran Hour Broadcast

The Lutheran Hour can be heard on the following radio stations on Sunday Morning:

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.

December 4

"Wait Until He Comes!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
A broken world waits, yearns, and hopes for restoration. Jesus has already done everything to make that restoration a reality.

(Isaiah 11:1-10)

December 11

"Let the Adventure Begin"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
In Christ, all of life is an adventure, one that is full of His promise and hope. (Isaiah 35:1-10)

December 18

"Peace On Earth, Peace That Lasts"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
What is the key to real and lasting peace on earth? Jesus, God with us. (Matthew 1:18-25)

December 25

"What We Really Want"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

What do you want this Christmas? Jesus is God's greatest gift to a sinful world. (Galatians 4:4-5)

Scrip Scrap Corner

With the holidays fast approaching we'd like to remind you that Scrip cards make terrific stocking stuffers and also gifts for the hard to buy for person on your list. If we do not have what you want, we can special order almost anything you would like. We have a listing of the vendors that are available on the Scrip counter. I-Hop, Perkins and Panera Bread were added to our scrip list this past year. Our profit total for November was \$377.20.



Bethesda Thrift Shop and Christmas Shop

Christmas month is here again and our focus is on the birth of our Savior who brought us the gift of salvation. Let us help your celebration with gifts, clothing, and Christmas decorations. Our Christmas Shop has been very successful. In December we will be having various clearance sales on Christmas items, books and media, and clothing. The stores will be open on Sundays through Dec. 18 from noon to 4:00 p.m. and open on Christmas Eve from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Shop at Bethesda and help enhance the lives of the many intellectually and physically disabled people serviced by Bethesda. The volunteers at Bethesda wish you all a very blessed Christmas.



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 Nancy Reese and Jean Zeman (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 David Timm expressed much appreciation!

Thank You

A big thank you to Kaitlyn Federwitz for all the books she donated for our church library in memory of her mother, Annette Minor, who was a Lutheran preschool teacher for 19 years.



We now have seven durable books for young children and three Berenstain Bear books. In addition we have:

A Wild Ride Through the Bible Adventure Bible Handbook – a “tween” type book

The Crippled Lamb – Max Lucado – DVD

Lady Like – Living Biblically

Hoodwinked – Ten Myths Moms Believe & Why We All Need to Knock It Off

Love-Powered Parenting – Loving Your Kids the Way Jesus Loves You

Thank You

THANK YOU to our generous congregation for your donations of hot dishes, salads, cheese trays, desserts and all the other food you brought in for the

funeral of Bill O’Dell. Also thank you to Gail Bossingham co-chairman of Group 1 and Mona & Les Heindl and Marion Oleson – co-chairman of Group 2 and also Emily Henke and Doug Kasten, who helped in the kitchen, and anyone else who helped in anyway. The family expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the fine job you did in serving the meal. And a huge thank you to Pastor Ader for the wonderful service. – Emily Saeger

Thank You

We would like to thank all those who made donations or purchased items at our book sale. Donations of children’s books was down this year so we would like to ask everyone to keep that in mind if you have children’s books to get rid of. Otherwise we had a wide variety of donations and we appreciate them all. We take donations all year long. Bring them to the library and place them in the blue bin. New items are purchased with the profits from the sale. Stop in our library soon. Seasonal items are on display as well as many new items—
The Library Committee

Flower & Bulletin Chart

The new 2017 flower and bulletin sign up charts will be available soon on the north bulletin board. If you signed up for either (especially flowers) over the past few years, please give your fellow members an opportunity to sign up, then if after a few weeks your date is open then sign up for it. Thank you for your cooperation.



Bulletins

Annual Report Deadline

It's that time again!!! Annual reports from all boards and organizations need to be brought or e-mailed to the church office by Wednesday, December 28, 2016.



ANNUAL REPORT

Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2017 offering envelopes beginning Dec 10 & 11 weekend. There will be a cart in the narthex with them. No labels this year. Just pickup a box. Please include your first and last name on your envelopes to insure that you are getting credit for your tithe. Do you received unsolicited mail with free mailing labels? This is a great way to use them! Please wait until after January 1, 2017 to use your new envelopes.

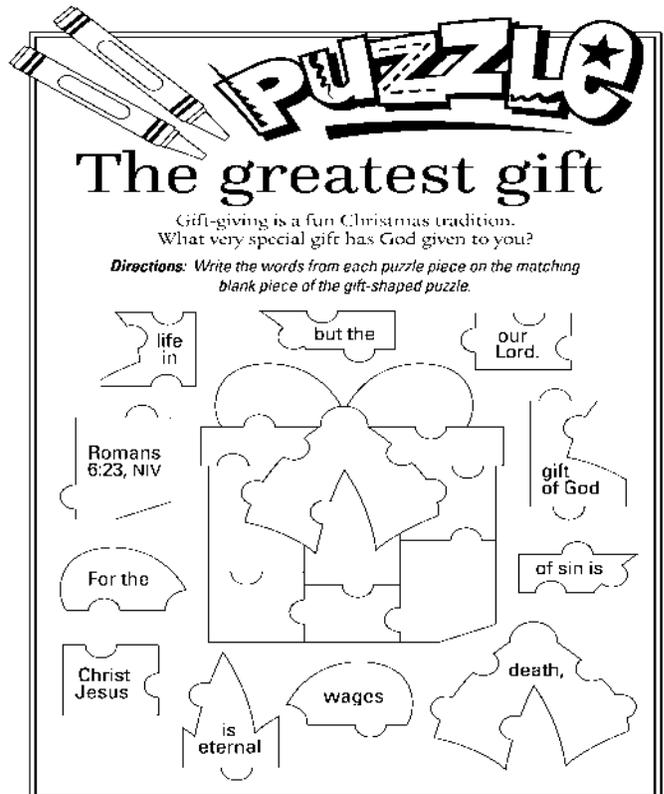


Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

Price per year is \$22.01 (11 issues June/July issue is a combined edition). Please make your check out to St. John Lutheran Church and on the memo line write "Lutheran Witness". Mail or drop your payment off at the church office by Monday, December 12. New subscription will begin in March 2017.

Office Thank You

I would like to thank everyone that has helped out in the office when I have needed it. It is greatly appreciated. I would especially like to thank Betty Spurlock for donating her time to help me out in the office with Scrip and for also helping out on the weekends selling scrip since the absence of Judy Monje. Thank you to the Ladies Aid and Ladies Evening Guild for generously donating to help purchase paper for the office. Thank you to Doug and Karen Ross for continuing to be our after hours parcel pickup deliveries at your home. Also thank you to our custodians Marcia Doescher and Bill Coley for all you do as well to keep the church looking good inside and outside. Also a big thank you to Pastor Ader for the help he gives me. Merry Christmas and God's Blessings for a Happy New Year. Sharon Coley



Answer: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23, NIV.



FROM
HEAVEN
ABOVE

ADVENT WEEKLY WORSHIP SERIES

The Season of Advent will begin on Sunday, November 27th. Our Wednesday Mid-Week Advent Services will follow the theme of *From Heaven Above*. Services will be in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

As the 500th anniversary of the Reformation approaches, this beloved hymn by Martin Luther provides the theme for the From Heaven Above Advent series, which focuses on the divine gifts that come down to us through the birth of Jesus. Each week in the series, we will "unwrap" one of the precious treasures delivered to us in the holy Child wrapped in swaddling clothes

- ❖ **Week 1** (Nov. 30): The Gift of Hope (Matthew 12:15-21): The people of Israel waited in hope for the promised Messiah. We now wait in hope for his return on the Last Day.
- ❖ **Week 2** (Dec. 7): The Gift of Love (John 3:13-17): The steadfast love of God is revealed in the gift of his Son. As the redeemed people of God we share his love with others.
- ❖ **Week 3** (Dec. 14): The Gift of Peace (John 14:25-27): In Christ Jesus we have peace with God. We now share that good news of peace with the world.
- ❖ **Week 4** (Dec. 21): The Gift of Life (John 1:1-5): Through faith in Jesus we have forgiveness and life, a life of love and service now in his name and eternal life in his presence.

Christmas Eve's theme will be *From Heaven Above: The Gift of Joy* and Christmas Day's theme will be *From Heaven Above: The Gift of Glory*.



Cookie

Walk

Saturday,

December 10th

St. John



Lutheran Church

8020 South Park Road-Kellner

(Stone Church on the corner by th Park

Open at 9 a.m.



Homemade Cookies and Candy

Sold by the Pound