St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 2025

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.

Newsletter Deadline

The February Newsletter deadline will be January 22nd. Please have any information you want in the newsletter emailed or paper copy in the office by this date. Thank you!

Epiphany Celebration

Join us for the annual Epiphany Celebration on January 8th! Starting at 5pm there will be the weeknight meal of hot dogs, a 6pm service, at 6:30pm the Epiphany Celebration, and ending with an exciting night of bingo! We always enjoy seeing who gets their piece of The Three Kings cake with the surprise almond. – St. John Board of Education.

Thank You

Sounds of good wishes and laughter from happy, busy workers were heard in the church the whole week before the 30th Annual Cookie Walk event!

The Cookie and Candy Shoppe at St. John came to life once again on Saturday, December 14th! The morning dawned with mild temperatures for mid-December in Wisconsin! The filled tables on the lower level were a sight to behold! The best cooks, bakers, candy and soup makers had produced the best tasting and the most beautiful and delicious sweet and savory items possible!

The Cookie and Candy Shoppe opened promptly at 9am with many loyal shoppers waiting at the door! It seemed like in a "flash", the tables were being emptied—truly a sign of the quality and variety of the homemade (from scratch) items donated! The Cookies and Candies were packaged in (1 and 2 pound containers) and some larger "party trays". Shoppers liked the idea the "work" was done for them...easy baking! The soup kettles had also been put to work creating very tasty varieties of homemade soups! Soup sold out quickly! Craft items and canned goods were also available.

The Lutheran Women in Mission organizes this event and extends a huge Thank You to everyone in the congregation who helped in any way...cooking, baking, setting up, and taking down the displays. A special Thank You to the "bakers" and "soup makers" who prepared goodies for the sale, both at home and in the church kitchen! Thank You to all who distributed the flyers announcing the Cookie Walk. A special Thank You to Herman Taylor Funeral Home for their generous donation of print advertising in the City Times!

In less than an hour, the over-flowing cookie tables were nearly sold out! Cookies were sold after services on the weekend. This church-wide event would not be the great success it was without generous donations from the entire congregation. Monies from the Cookie Walk will be used for projects within the church, the community, the nation, and the world.

Thank You again to all who were involved in this Christmas-time event! We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring and sharing congregation!

<u>Thank You</u>

A big thank you to our volunteers who helped decorate our church this Christmas season. I appreciate each one of you for all your help in getting this year's work done. Many thanks go out to Chuck Peters, Doug Ross, Richard Lau, Darleene Swen, Marilyn Knoll, Cindy Lau, Donna Weber, Anita Westfall, and Cindy Johnson. If you enjoy the decorations, I am looking for some of the congregation's younger members to step up and take over the coordination of decorating of our church, I have lots of seasonal decorations ready to go. New ideas are welcome. Age is getting to be a problem with many of us that have been doing this for years and we need new younger people to take over. I would help throughout the year. Thank you for considering this responsibility. Thank you and may each of you have many blessings this Christmas season! – Cathy Timm

Thank You

The St. John youth and Board of Ed want to thank everyone for their support and attendance at the second annual walkthrough Bethlehem. It was a great night where children brought the story of Jesus's birth to life. The attendees were able to visit stations and learn about what Bethlehem was like many years ago. The children were excited to bring Bethlehem to life!

We would like to thank everyone who donated or borrowed items for our stations. Special thanks go out to Jeff Zimmerman, Bonnie Hansen, Sue Helmuth, Marilyn Knoll, and the Onesti Family. We also appreciate all who took a donation-star and remain anonymous, we thank you for your gifts. The families of our St. John youth who volunteered have been a blessing and show that our St. John Weekday School program extends beyond just the youth. Thank You!

Lutheran Hour Broadcast

<u>The Lutheran Hour can be heard on the following radio stations on Sunday Morning:</u> 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.

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January 5

"In the Beginning Was Dialogue" Lutheran Hour Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler</u> Do you need more faith? Then you need the Word. Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ. (John 1:1)

January 12

"What's This Neighborhood Coming To?" Lutheran Hour Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler</u> When you're not limited by the size of your table, you can invite everyone. (John 1:14)

January 19

"He Made Me a Believer" Lutheran Hour Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler</u> God makes us believers and the more we believe, the more we become involved in the institutions God made--church, marriage, family, and work. (John 2:11)

January 26 "**An Overture to the Greatest Story Ever Told**" Guest Speaker: <u>Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez</u>

Like an overture that introduces a great musical work, John the Baptizer is the living voice sent by God to bear witness to Jesus' lordship and salvation. (John 3:26-36)