

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

January 2020



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

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“God’s Love in Action”

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
JANUARY 19, 2020
9:00 A.M. WORSHIP/COMM
10:00 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING**

*Pastor's
Note...*

In November of 2002 I was able to go on a study tour to Germany. We walked in the footsteps of Martin Luther and visited many of the important places of his life. One of those was a little town called Eisleben, where Luther was born in November of 1483. A couple of days after his birth, he was baptized in St. Peter and St. Paul Church, just across the alley behind his parents' home. The baptismal font was filled to the brim with cold water and the baby Luther was fully immersed. November is cold in Germany, just like it is here. His mother stood by with warm clothes to wrap him up. Remember, the church didn't have (and still doesn't have) a central heating system. It's a massive, cold, stone building. It wasn't uncommon for children to become ill following their baptism. Luther, however, survived his baptism without incident.

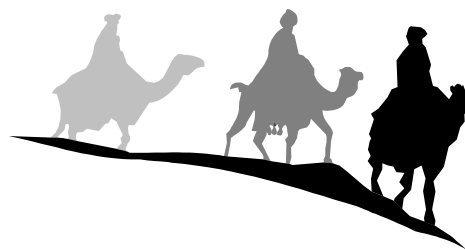
We stood next to the actual font where Martin Luther was baptized. It was strange and impressive. I had studied the history in books at seminary. I knew that Luther was a real man who was empowered by God to shake things up. But that was all theoretical. It was just history, just a story and not real life to me. But as we stood there in the church where he was baptized and as I put my hand in the font, history came alive for me.

In this same church was a crucifix of Jesus. Christ was hanging on one of the side walls near the altar. His face was thin and drawn out. But that wasn't the most disturbing part. This five-foot carving of Jesus had real human hair on its head. It gave me the creeps! Jesus looked like a real man hanging on the cross. It hurt to see him there. I know the story of Christ. I know the pain he experienced. I know the blood that he shed and the tears that he cried. But the hair made it even more real for me.


We're in the season of Christmas now, the time of year we celebrate God becoming one of us. And this is more than just some theoretical concept. It really happened. It came to pass in those days that Jesus was born. Our God broke into human history. But not wielding a great and powerful sword of revenge, not filled with fury and anger, he came into the world as a vulnerable, weak, frail little baby. He came into the world the same way we come into the world. He was just like you and me. One of us.

So, at this time of year, we think about the baby Jesus. Think about his cry. Think about his mother, and how precious he was to her. Think about how proud and loving Joseph was. Think about his little fingers. Think about his little toes. Think about his hair. He came for you and for me. He came for this broken world. And he's as real as can be!

Peace,
Pastor Russ



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in
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**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
JANUARY 19, 2020
9:00 A.M. WORSHIP/COMM
10:00 A.M. ANNUAL MEETING**

The Youth Board is hosting a breakfast on January 19th in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. during the Annual Meeting. Come support the youth of St. John while enjoying eggs, tortillas, sausage, ham, cheese, pancakes, and cinnamon rolls!

NO Sunday School on January 19th!

The After-School Program could use some donations of glue sticks, colored pencils, art boxes and some more snacks. The kids especially like animal crackers, chocolate pudding cups, applesauce cups, and apple juice.

2020 Giving Envelopes are available in the Narthex

If you are unable to pick up your Giving Envelopes at church, please let the office know and we will get them to you. Also, if you don't currently have Giving Envelopes and would like to have them, let the office know and we will provide you with Giving Envelopes.

Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers Sign-ups

Signups for the 2020 Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast are on the glass case in the Narthex.


Wednesday Night Supper

January 8: Lasagna, lettuce salad, garlic bread, glazed carrots, Oreo dessert

January 15: Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes, green beans, cottage cheese, strawberry dessert

January 22: Oven baked chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans, applesauce, pineapple cake

January 29: Chicken noodle soup/Wisconsin cheese soup, rolls, lettuce salad, banana dessert



The St. John book club will meet **January 27th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside room and will review the book *Brain on Fire* by Susannah Cahalan. An award-winning memoir and instant *New York Times* bestseller that goes far beyond its riveting medical mystery, *Brain on Fire* is the powerful account of one woman's struggle to recapture her identity. In a swift and breathtaking narrative, Susannah tells the astonishing true story of her descent into madness, her family's inspiring faith in her, and the lifesaving diagnosis that nearly didn't happen.



**The office will be closed
January 1st
Happy New Year!**

**On January 19th there will be
NO Sunday School.**

**The Parkinson's Support group
Will NOT meet in January.**

January Birthdays

3 rd	Wallace Schilling	28 th	Betty Ball
8 th	Irene Gabe	29 th	Eunice Tommingo
14 th	Kay Tjaden	29 th	Dale Bond
28 th	Dale Lamprecht		

January Anniversaries

January 2, 1964 Leland & Pam Lumley

With sympathy...

The Funerals of

William "Bill" Henry Wohlers, December 14, 2019

Patricia "Pat" S. Kalk Mehmen, December 18, 2019

Memorials were given in memory of...

William "Bill" Wohlers: Arlene Thomas, Edna Stott,
Lynn & Peg Poppen, Don & Shirley Holm, Gladys
Kellogg, Ivadelle Stevenson

Charles Krumwiede: Kurt & Kathy Hoeft, Don &
Shirley Holm

Andy Melrose: Gladys Kellogg

Robert Gardner: Kip & Judy Hauser

Patricia "Pat" Mehmen: Frank & Jeanette Anderson

*Thank you to Marlene Holthaus for
donating flameless candles and red bells
to decorate the church for Christmas.
Marlene also donated a Communion set
for the third station, all in memory of her
husband, Don Holthaus.*

Scripture Readers:

January 5

8:00 – Kurt Hoeft

10:15 – Dawn Baldus

January 12

8:00 – Kathy Rogotzke

10:15 – Michelle Grob

January 19

9:00 – Kim Watkins

January 26

8:00 – Kiki Connell

10:15 – Sue Ayers

Do Day Quilters
Meets January 9 & 23

**ALTAR GUILD –
JANUARY 2020**
Dorothy Parson &
Arlene Thomas

**St. John Lutheran Card
Ministry** will meet January
13th at 1:00 p.m.

St. John's Parent Support Group will be meeting on an **as needed basis ONLY**. Anyone who needs to meet should contact Jill Connell at 319-215-8252 or jillconnell@hotmail.com.

JANUARY FUNERAL CALLERS & HELPING HANDS:

CALLER – Diane Loudermilk. Thanks to our December caller **Sandy Hicks, Gloria Carr.**

HELPERS – Dawn Baldus, Julie Begemann, Ana Blickenderfer, Joyce Boehmer, Karol Carpenter, Ruth Farmer, Gloria Frerichs, Donna Gambaiani, Ina Heitz, Gladys Kellogg, Sue McDonald, Shirley Platte, Peg Poppen, LaVonne Reysack, Wendy Ross

Winter is in full swing and while the days ARE getting longer – the weather sometimes doesn't cooperate with us. If school is cancelled or dismissed early on a Wednesday (due to weather) we will NOT hold the After-School Program or Confirmation classes or have ANY of our Wednesday night activities.
Blessings, Laurie

Youth News

The Youth Board is hosting a breakfast on January 19th in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. during the Annual Meeting.

Come support the youth of St. John while enjoying eggs, tortillas, sausage, ham, cheese, pancakes, and cinnamon rolls, too!

Confirmation

Our third Session of classes is starting this month and the 28 students in our Confirmation program are taking either *The Apostles' Creed*, *The Lord's Prayer*, or *Everybody Always*.

Sunday School News

December brought the Christmas Program for our Sunday Schoolers who are 3 years old through 6th grade. Be sure to check out the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Facebook Page for photos of the Christmas Program to see the product of all their hard work! The Program went so well this year and I am so thankful for all the work the students, teachers, and directors did to make it so great!

Sunday School classes resume on Sunday, January 5th after a break for the holidays. We are learning about New Testament Bible stories this semester.

There will be NO Sunday School on January 19th as there is only one worship service that day at 9am.

Attention: **5th Grade Parents!** The 1st Communion **parent/student/pastor instructional classes** will be February 9th and February 16th at 9:15am. Please put these two dates on your calendar now.

Family Board

Thank you to everyone that donated to our "Christmas, Crafts, and Kids \$0.25 Gift Store"! We had a great turn-out and heard lots of positive comments afterwards. We will be taking donations of **Christmas items** from now until January 15th for next year's sale. (Sorry, but we just don't have the space to take donations all year long. We will take donations again next fall.)

After School Program

We have 32 kids enrolled in our After-School Program, which is each Wednesday from 3:30-5pm. We have a snack and do a craft project and watch a short video each week. The After-School Program could use some donations of glue sticks, colored pencils, art boxes and some more snacks. The kids especially like animal crackers, chocolate pudding cups, applesauce cups, and apple juice. Thank you!

January 2020

Greeter/Offering Assistant: Savannah Baldus

Worship Assistants (Acolyte & Communion Assistant)

8:00 – Kassey Kakac, Hannah DeVore, Hayden Heyer

10:15 – Kassey Kakac, Tyler Marth, Isaac Hervert, Katie Prichard & Teagan Prigge

January 19 at 9:00 – Hannah DeVore, Hayden Heyer

Dates & times when the youth are serving are posted on the bulletin board outside the Business Manager's office.





“God’s
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Happy New Year from all of your friends at St. John Christian Preschool! We are so excited to welcome back our wonderful friends and families for the second semester of our preschool program.

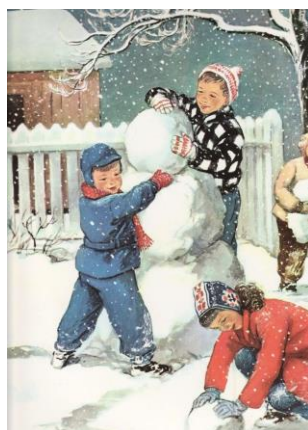
The month of December was a great one, full of anticipation and excitement towards the birth of our Savior! We started the month with the introduction of the letters “Nn”, “Hh”, and “Zz”. The last two weeks before break was even more exciting! We introduced our very special Baby Jesus doll who slept in His very own manger. The children loved rocking him and singing to him. It was awe-inspiring to witness the love they showed to that special baby and it was a constant reminder to the adults of what the Christmas season is truly all about. We worked to emphasize the special Christmas story with projects that highlighted that precious baby boy. We hope that your Christmas brought you the same joy and satisfaction.

Starting this month, we will open up our 5-day program. This year our theme will be Chicka Boom. This program will use thematic ABC books to teach alphabet recognition, letter formation, and letter-sound correspondence. We will also be looking at words that begin with each letter. We will be working on our literacy skills with writing activities, sight words, and lots of books. We will also explore our artistic side with frequent art projects. Integrated within each day's lesson will be many opportunities to work on our math skills, artistic expression, and reasoning abilities. This is all in addition to singing, dancing, playing and lots of fun!

As we end another year at SJCP, we thank you for your continued support that not only sustains our preschool but also helps our preschool grow and flourish. Not to mention all of the preschoolers within it!

We start the New Year feeling blessed by the job God has given us. We work with great friends and we are supported by a board full of dedicated moms and a congregation that has given so generously in so many ways to our ministry. We hope that the New Year is full of just as many blessings for your family.

With His Love,
Whittney Franke









January 2020 Birthdays!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Barbara Tommingo	Bruce Hovden Patrick Lumley	Elizabeth Gassman Teresa Knecht Cassandra Schiesher Wallace Schilling	Laura Marth
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ryan Hallett Richard Olesen		Lawrence Hibbs	Irene Gabe Grace Marth		Evan Schmidke	Mark Parsons Ann Voelker
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Lee Hoeft	Mike Hammond Larry Milleson	Tami Jakel Kay Tjaden Sawyer Wiltse Avery Wiltse		Jennifer Seckar	Dean Toebe	Gary DeBower Jared Tieskotter Sheryl Veen
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Josiah Hervert Joshua Keyes Sherman Loudermilk	Kathy Hoeft Steve Shankland		Doris Hibbs	Sharon Bledsoe Terry Meyer	Sharon Streich
26	27	28	29	30	31	
John Selvig Ryan Venz		Scott Aspholm Betty Ball Emma Heidebrink Cameron Kakac Dale Lamprecht	Dale Bond Eunice Tommingo Jaelyn Van Horn	Harlow Venz	Randy Brunner Benjamin Hammond Nancy Nelson Olive Tracey Abigail Wolf	

JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Office Closed Happy New Year 			
5 Communion	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 9:00 a.m. Deacons 9:00 a.m. Stewardship 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Parish Ed	6:00 p.m. Scouts 	5:00 p.m. Building & Grounds	Wednesday Night Schedule 5:15 p.m. Family board 7:30 p.m. Dartball at Immanuel	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 5:00 p.m. Finance 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry 		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Youth board 	1:00 p.m. Card making 6:00 p.m. Scouts	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study 6:00 p.m. Council	9:00 a.m. Altar Guild Wednesday Night Schedule 7:30 p.m. Dartball at St. John	7:00 p.m. Stephen's Ministry		
19 Annual Meeting	20	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25
9:00 a.m. Worship/Comm 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Congregation Youth brunch		6:30 p.m. Preschool board	Wednesday Night Schedule 7:00 p.m. Dartball at Pleasant Valley	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1-Feb
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Scouts' Pinewood Derby	6:00 p.m. Scouts 7:00 p.m. Book club	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study	Wednesday Night Schedule 10:00 a.m. Assemble newsletters	7:00 p.m. Stephen's Ministry		