

**Announcements for the week of
December 15, 2013
At St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Angel Tree

Thank you all who were able to help by donating gifts and/or other items for Glade Run Lutheran Services to be distributed to those in need this Christmas season.

Theology on Tap – December 18th – 8:00 pm

Men from Lutheran churches in the area will be gathering for fellowship and to speak on matters of faith and life. Join us at Domenico's Restaurant in Cranberry, located at Piazza Plaza, 20550 Rt. 19. Invite a friend and come and enjoy our gathering.

Christmas Open House at the Parsonage – December 21st – 3:00-7:00 pm

Every year I invite folks into the parsonage for my annual Christmas party. I like having the opportunity to have members of the congregation to my home (and yours) for a great celebration of Christ being born into our hearts. We will start a little earlier this year so that those who don't like to drive after dark will be able to join us. There will be plenty of food for everyone! Thank you for inviting me into your homes during the year--this is my way to help return the favor!

Set Up for Christmas - December 22nd after late church

We will be setting up decorations for the season of Christmas after late church. We need as many people as possible to help hang candles, decorate the tree, put up lights and prepare for the coming of the king of kings. This is a fun and festive afternoon, please give us a hand.

Longest Night Service -- December 22nd - 7:00 pm

Sometimes, during the long nights of winter, when the world is celebrating, we don't feel like it. This service is sometimes called a blue Christmas service – it is for those for whom Christmas doesn't feel like Christmas. But we are promised that the people who walk in darkness have seen a great light. This service is for those who grieve, but still need reminded of the light of Christ's love.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve at 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm -- We will have two opportunities to celebrate the birth of the Savior on Christmas Eve. These services are some of the most joyful of the year, filled with the word that God has been born among us and for us. The liturgy will be the same at both services with candle lighting and communion. Join us to share in the joy.

Christmas Morning Worship at 10:00 am – Christmas morning celebrates the birth of Jesus in the world. This is a more intimate service than Christmas Eve and a chance to wish a Merry Christmas to sisters and brothers in Christ. This is the day of Christ's birth, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Lessons and Carol Service – December 29th – 10:00 am – No Sunday School

We will have one worship service on Sunday, December 29th at 10:00 am. This service will be a service of lessons and carols as we celebrate the incarnation of Jesus among us and for us. We hope that you can join us, sing some of your favorite Christmas hymns and share in the joy of Christmas.

2014 Flower Chart

The chart for the coming year for those who wish to donate flowers for the altar for weekly services is now posted on the bulletin board in the greeting area. Please place your name on the list for the week you choose and you may either order the flowers yourself or we can order them for you. You will be contacted the week before to verify ordering information and to ask for the intention for your donation.

White Elephant Bingo – January 4th – 4:00-7:00 pm

Beat the January blues and join us for an evening of bingo and a potluck dinner. Bring a covered dish to share and a wrapped gift to trade. Suggested value of gift is around \$5. Hope to see you there!

First Sunday Breakfast – January 5th - 9:15 am

Share the warmth of fellowship by coming together to enjoy this month's first breakfast. Whether you're a first-timer or a regular, take the time to come and enjoy this meal and time together.

Exercise Program – Coming in January

St. John's will be having classes to benefit all ages and physical limitations. The program is designed to improve strength, flexibility, balance and overall health. There is a sign-up sheet in the greeting area or contact Pastor Mark or Kim Richards. Date and time to be determined.

Worship Helpers Sign-Up

There is a Worship Helpers sign-up sheet in the Greeting Area. Please consider signing up to help.

This Week at St. John

Sunday – December 15th	Worship (Third Sunday of Advent)	8:00 am
	Sunday School	9:15 am
	Worship (Third Sunday of Advent)	10:30 am
	Confirmation Class	2:30-4:30 pm
Monday - December 16th	Brown Bag Bible Study Lunch at Springfield Grille	12-1:30 pm
Wednesday – December 18th	Theology on Tap-Domenico's	8-9:30 pm
Saturday - December 21st	Open House at Parsonage	3 – 7 pm
Sunday - December 22nd	Worship (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	8:00 am
	Sunday School	9:15 am
	Worship (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	10:30 am
	Set-up for Christmas after late worship	
	Confirmation Class	2:30-4:30 pm
	Longest Night Service	7:00 pm