

**Announcements for the week of
December 18, 2016
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Pastor's Office Hours: Generally Tuesdays & Thursdays – 9:30-1:00 pm
Wednesdays – 9:30-11:00 am “Coffee Hours” at Mars Brew House
Available other times by appointment.**

Decorating the Church - TODAY

We will be decorating the church for Christmas after late worship service today. Please stay and lend a helping hand if you are able to do so.

Mission Planning Task Force Meeting – Today

The Mission Planning Task Force will meet today for lunch and our afternoon meeting after the decorating of the sanctuary.

Confirmation Class - Today

We will meet today at 1:00 pm.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Worship Services

Saturday, December 24 – Worship Services at 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 25 – One Worship Service at 10:00 am

December Newsletter – Corrections

In the December Newsletter the day for the Youth Group to meet at St. John Specialty Care Center was listed as Sunday, January 7. It should have been listed as **Saturday, January 7 at 1:45 pm.** We will assist the residents with bowling during their activity time. There will be no regular Sunday meeting in January for the Youth Group. Also, the times for the evening Christmas Eve Worship was listed incorrectly. **The Christmas Eve Worship times are at 3 pm and 7:30 pm.**

2017 Communion Bread Schedule

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the greeting area for anyone who would like to choose a month to provide the communion bread for worship services.

Blessing of the Calendars – New Year's Day

On Sunday, January 1, during our one worship service at 10:00 am there will be a blessing of the calendars to offer prayers for the 2017 year. All are invited, especially the children, to bring a calendar with you to worship that day. Please be sure your name is on the calendar so it can be easily identified. The calendars will be collected and blessed during worship.

White Elephant Bingo – January 14

Beat the winter blues and join us for a potluck dinner and bingo! Bring a covered dish to share if you can (optional, there's usually plenty!) and a wrapped gift to trade. Suggested gift value is around \$5. Come for a fun time, good food and fellowship.

Hand Sanitizers

We are almost out of the hand sanitizers provided in the pews. If anyone has an employer or other resource that would be willing to donate these items it would be greatly appreciated. Please notify the church office if you have a donation source.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends – 2017

March 24-26, 2017 – Toftrees Golf Resort Conference Center – a peaceful resort in State College, PA

April 28-30, 2017 – Heritage Hotel in Lancaster, PA

September 15-17, 2017 – Spruce Lake Retreat Center in Candensis, PA (Spruce Lake in Poconos)

October 6-8, 2017 – Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts (overlooking Laurel Lake in foothills of Berkshires)

To register online go to www.GodLovesMarriage.org . Registration fee is \$100 – you may pay with credit card or send a check. For additional information or brochures contact Fred & Julie Schamber at 724-325-3166 or email at fjschamber@comcast.net.

This Week at St. John

Sunday – December 18	Worship (Fourth Sunday of Advent) Sunday School Worship (Fourth Sunday of Advent) Decoration of Sanctuary Mission Planning Task Force Meeting Confirmation Class	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am After Worship After Decoration completed 1:00 pm
Wednesday – December 21	Bible Study	Noon
Friday – December 23	Church Office Closed	
Saturday – December 24	Christmas Eve Worship	3:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday – December 25	Christmas Day Worship	10:00 am