

**Announcements for the week of
November 19, 2017
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.**

Stewardship Snippet – November 19, 2017 (24th Sunday after Pentecost, Year A; Proper 28)

“I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground.” – Matthew 25:25

In Jesus' day, a “talent” was a large sum of money, and the characters in today's parable are expected to use the talents entrusted to them to profit their benefactor. Today we think of talents as special God-given abilities, but the same principle applies: God wants us to use all our talents – and our resources – to profit God's purposes in the world. How are you doing?

Welcome

We welcome today as a guest and to the pulpit the Reverend Melissa Stoller. Pastor Stoller is the ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop for New, Renewing, and Collaborative Ministry for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod.

Pastor Zimmerman

Pastor Zimmerman will be away on vacation this week, returning to the office on Tuesday, November 28th. If there is an immediate pastoral emergency please call him on his cell at [\(412\) 585-1628](tel:4125851628).

Today

We Give of Ourselves Celebration and Commitment Sunday! Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for lunch after our worship service.

Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is on the table in the greeting area. Please add the names of your deceased loved ones and we will remember them in prayers through the month of November.

Pancake Breakfast – November 25

St. John's will be holding a *Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, November 25 from 7 am – 10 am*. Make sure you stop by before doing your holiday shopping to fuel up! Ticket price is Adults - \$8; Kids under 10 yrs. - \$5; Under age 5 – FREE. Come and support St. John and tell all your friends! Tickets are available beginning today and next few Sundays between and after worship.

Keepsake Christmas – December 2

St. John's will present 'Keepsake Christmas' on *Saturday, December 2 at 10 am and 12:30 pm*. Families will hear a dramatic retelling of the Christmas story from cast members onstage. While listening to the story, each child will make and decorate a manger scene. The story will be followed by cookies and hot chocolate. Please register online at stjohnchurchmars.org or by calling the church office at 724-625-1830.

Congregational Meeting – December 3

There will be a brief congregational meeting following both worship services *on Sunday, December 3*. The congregation will be asked to vote on the slate for the 2018 Vestry.

Christmas Poinsettias for the Church

A form is attached to the back of this week's bulletin if you wish to purchase poinsettia plants to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. *Deadline to order is Sunday, December 3. Cost is \$7.50 for each 6.5” plant* and you may choose red, pink, white or marble plants. Please return your order form with payment. Order early so you don't forget!

Choir Practice – December 3 – After Worship

All choir members are asked to stay after the second service on December 3. Practice for Christmas Eve with Maizy.

Angel Tree

During this holiday season, we will be sponsoring an Angel Tree for Glade Run Lutheran Services in Zelenople. Tags are on the tree in the greeting area. *Please return your gift by Sunday, December 8.* If you have any questions, please contact Denise Hager.

Abundant Lights Christmas Festival – December 2

Passavant Community in Zelenople will present Abundant Lights on Saturday, December 2 from 4-8 pm. Free event! Food, entertainment, shopping, children’s activities and much more! For information call Amy at Lutheran SeniorLife – 724-453-6014.

Polar Express at the Strand – December 2

Glade Run Foundation is offering 2 private showings of Polar Express on Sunday, December 2. Two showings – 11am and 2 pm. Admission - a Christmas gift or gift card for a Glade Run child or family in need. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Reserve your seats by calling Cheryl Martin at 724-452-4453 x1277.

This Week at St. John

Sunday – November 19	Worship (Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost) Celebration & Commitment Sunday Luncheon Confirmation Class	10:00 am Following Worship 1:00 pm
Wednesday – November 22	Girl Scouts	6:00 – 8:00 pm
Thursday – November 23	Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed	
Friday – November 24	Church Office Closed	
Sunday – November 26	Worship (Christ the King) Sunday School & Lifelong Learning Worship (Christ the King)	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am