

**Announcements for the week of
December 9, 2018
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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

Available other times by appointment.

Pastor Zimmerman's day off, Sabbath time, is on Monday's.

He is available 24/7 for emergencies by cell phone: 412-585-1628

Stewardship Snippet – (2nd Sunday of Advent, Year C)

*“And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.” – **Philippians 1:9-11***

Love is the theme for the Second Sunday in Advent. When we cultivate love in our lives as steward/disciples, it does overflow and guide our lives on the paths of strength and joy.

Congregational Meeting/Vestry Elections Today

Today there will be a vote following each service to elect our 2019 Vestry. The Vestry will meet to elect officers and board chairs/secretaries on **Thursday December 13th at 7:00 p.m.**

Poinsettia Orders Due TODAY

There is an order form attached to today's bulletin if you would like to order poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas. Price is \$7.50 each. Please fill out a form and if paying by check make it out to St. John Lutheran Church.

Community Christmas Program – TODAY

This year our family Community Christmas Program will be “Starry Night” from 1-3 p.m. today. Join us for this FREE Christmas Event filled with stations, crafts, and snacks! You can even get your picture taken in our photo booth. Bring your family, friends and neighbors for this special Christmas event.

Angel Tree

We will once again be sponsoring an Angel Tree for Glade Run Lutheran Services in Zelienople. Tags are on the tree in the greeting area. ***Please return your gift to the greeting area by December 16.*** Any questions, contact Denise Hager.

Blue Christmas Worship – Saturday, December 15 - 3:00 p.m here at St. John

While Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. A Blue Christmas service provides a time and place of solace during the often frenetic days surrounding the celebration of Christmas. **Join us on Saturday, December 15 at 3:00 pm for our Blue Christmas Worship.**

Brown Bag Bible Studies

This church year is focused on the Gospel of Luke, a gospel in which Jesus emphasizes healing and justice, the Wednesday Brown Bag Bible Studies during the season of Advent will be looking at the ELCA Social Statement, *The Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective*, and its roots in scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. Join us at Noon on Wednesdays for conversation and fellowship as we break bread together and dig into scripture and theology.

Cookies Needed for Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is in need of cookies for the month of December and St. John's has been asked to help out. There is a sign-up sheet in the greeting area. Please sign up for a week and help to bring a bit of the holidays to others. Any questions, see Kim Richards.

4Q18 Mission Emphasis Update

As of December 2, 2018, we have collected \$657.00 to help the Daini family from Nigeria. This means we are well on our way towards helping the family purchase bunk beds and mattresses! Thank you so much for your generosity!

Please note on the Prayer Cards in the pews anyone to be **added** or **removed from** the prayer lists or contact the church office at 724-625-1830 or office@stjohnchurchmars.org.

Prayer List - Members of St. John: Roy Werner, Bob Dishong, Jeannette Claus, Karen Collins, Harry Cole, Ruth Bielo, Pastor Storm, Frieda Carbo, Kim Richards, Bill Schulz, Francis & Grace Kratz, David & Ellen Hrach.

Ongoing list: (listed alphabetically by the *first letter of first name*) Aidan DeBlassio (child of friend of Winnie Stefko); Ann Bufalini (friend of Valerie Cardinal); Artie Pallan (brother of Anne Olescyski); Barbara Yoakum (friend of Nan McCormick); Beth Ann McCormick (niece of Nan & Gary McCormick); Bob Young (uncle of Carolyn Zimmerman); Bowlden family (friends of Katie Richards); Calvin Lisac (great nephew of Anne Olescyski); Carl Rossi (Gretchen Baysek's co-worker's son); Carrie Thompson (co-worker of Erin Weaver); Cassie Kelly-Winkler (niece of Matt Claus); Christina & Regis Ward (Jim & Martha Ward's daughter-in-law & son); Denis Bishop (brother of Denise Hager); Dennis Hockenberry (brother-in-law of Anne Olescyski); Diana Lydon (grandmother of Victoria & Makenna Lydon); Dr. David English (friend of Nan McCormick); Diane Hoehn (friend of Anne & Chuck Olescyski); Donna Wilson (friend of Nan McCormick); Ellianna Cicconi (Jim and Denise Hager's close friend's infant); George N. (friend of Martha & Jim Ward); Gloria McAnallan (friend of Amy & Larry Werner); Jane (friend of Janet Senka); Jayme Dinan (son of Carol Keddie); John (friend of Janet Senka); John & Dorothy DeRiggi (grandparents of Keith Cardinal); Joyce Adomaitis (mother-in-law of Lisa Adomaitis-daughter of Kathy Marshall); Kallie Yerkins (granddaughter of Carolyn Jarrett); Karen McClanahan (co-worker of Kim Richards); Landon Brewer (Bob & Sherry Davidson's grandchild); LaVonne Houland (aunt of Kramer family); Lee & Jane Miller (friend of Linda Sabbagh); Lee Schrock (husband of friend of Denise Hager); Lexie & Bill Raible (cousins of Anne & Chuck Olescyski); Linda Bailey (friend of Bob & Sherry Davidson); Mary Smolinski (friend of Chuck & Ann Olescyski); Nancy Montini (neighbor of Larry & Amy Werner); Nancy Smith (Erin Weaver's friend's mother); Patti (former sister-in-law of Sally Foster); Paul Gurtner (brother of Martha Ward); Robert Ward (son of Martha & James Ward); Ryan Johnson (nephew of Valerie & Keith Cardinal); Sarah Chang (infant of friend of Sally Foster); Sean Wachter (Carolyn Jarrett's niece's husband); Susan Walko (mother-in-law of Marcia Shepard); Sweeney Family (friends of Ruth Ann & John Tully); Tim Carpenter (friend of Nan & Gary McCormick); Tom H. (brother-in-law of Margie Baker); Tom McKeon (uncle of Denise Hager); Warren Aylsworth (father of Tanya Nagel).

Service Men and Women: (listed alphabetically by the *first letter of first name*) - Donald Jones (friend of Dishong family); Margie Bowlden (Richards family); Matthew Holmes (nephew of Susan Fritz); Taylor Aylsworth (nephew of Tanya Nagel).

This Week at St. John

Sunday – December 9	Worship (2nd Sunday of Advent) Sunday School & Lifelong Learning Congregational Meeting – Vote for Vestry Worship (2nd Sunday of Advent) Christmas “Starry Night” Program	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00-3:00 pm
Monday – December 10	Quilting Group @ Cindy Knauff's House	6:00 pm
Wednesday – December 12	Morning Prayer Brown Bag Lunch Bible Study	11:30 am Noon 12:30 pm
Thursday – December 13	Choir Practice Council/Vestry Elections	6:00 pm 7:00 pm
Saturday – December 15	Blue Christmas Worship Service	3:00 pm
Sunday – December 16	Worship (3rd Sunday of Advent) Sunday School & Lifelong Learning Worship (3rd Sunday of Advent) Confirmation Class	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm