



# ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

## December 2019/January 2020

Volume 25 *To sing the Praises of God, to Live the Grace of Jesus, to Share the Gift of the Spirit.* Issue 8

### December & January At-A-Glance

**Sunshine Circle &  
Adult Bible Class**  
Christmas Party  
Thursday, 12/5  
at 6:30 pm  
Fellowship Hall

**Sunday 12/08- Last  
day for ordering  
Poinsettias and  
Animal Shares!**  
(see pages 9-10)

**Christmas Sunday  
School Program**  
Sunday, 12/15  
One Service at  
10:30am

**Christian Singles  
Christmas  
Celebration**  
Friday 12/20  
at 5:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

**Christmas Cantata**  
Sunday, 12/22  
8:00 am & 10:30 am  
Worship Service

**Christmas Lessons  
and Carols**  
Sunday, 12/29  
8:00 am & 10:30 am  
Worship Service  
(no Sunday School)

### A Message from Pastor Kristin

#### “O Come All Ye Faithful”

Come to hear the good news of great joy given for all of the people!

Prepare for the story of God's love who came down for us by joining us for worship as we celebrate **Advent on December 1 and 8.**

This year we begin our Christmas celebrations a little early as we join together on **Sunday, December 15 for one service at 10:30am** (no 8am service) which will include our **Sunday School Christmas Program.**

Join us on **Sunday, December 22 at both services** for our **Christmas Choir Cantata.**

Join us on **Christmas Eve at 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm and 10:30pm** to hear the story of Jesus' birth and the angels' message "Do not be afraid." God's message of love is for you and me and for all people.

We will gather again on **Sunday, December 29 for Christmas Lessons and Carols at 8:00am and 10:30am** to hear the story again and to sing more Christmas Carols. This story never gets old.

May your Christmas celebrations be filled with love, joy and peace.

God's Peace

Pastor Kristin Dubsky

### Christmas Eve

All services below are with  
Candlelight and Holy  
Communion

*Pre-service music will begin  
20 minutes before.*

**3:00 p.m.**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**10:30 p.m.**



### Content ...

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# CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S!



## Celebrate!

Invite your family, your friends, your neighbors, and everyone you meet to join us the Christmas Season!

All Christmas Eve services are with Candlelight and Holy Communion. Pre-service music will begin 20 minutes before.

**Sunday,  
December  
22th  
8:00 a.m. &  
10:30 a.m.**

Christmas  
Cantata

**Christmas  
Eve  
3:00 p.m.**

Christmas  
Story &  
Carols with  
Special  
Music

**Christmas  
Eve  
5:00 p.m.**

Festive  
Service with  
Children's  
Message  
and Special  
Music

**Christmas  
Eve  
7:00 p.m.**

Family  
Service  
Children's  
Message  
and Special  
Music

**Christmas  
Eve  
10:30 p.m.**

Festive  
Service with  
the Adult  
Choir and  
Handbell  
Choir

**Sunday,  
December  
29th  
8:00 a.m. &  
10:30 a.m.**

Lessons and  
Carols  
(no Sunday  
School)

### Sunday School Christmas Program and Worship

Sunday, December 15 – 10:30am!  
(No 8am worship).

Our Sunday School Christmas program  
will be a part of the service.

Assignments for the Christmas program  
will be happening on Sunday,  
December 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Ages 3 – adult are  
welcome to be part of the program!



## CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S!

The Sunshine Circle and Adult Bible Class will have their combined Christmas Party on Thursday December 5 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Mia Hoyer has devotions, Nancy Dean is in charge of the program and The Adult Bible Class is the hostess. It is a covered dish dinner where drinks, rolls and desserts are provided. All ladies and their families and guests are welcome. For questions call Audrey Byrd at 410-848-1995.

A Christmas celebration for the Christian Singles Group will be held on Friday, December 20, at 5:00pm. in the Fellowship Hall beginning with a covered dish dinner. Each person is asked to bring a covered dish, a wrapped gift (\$10) and a friend. All adult Singles are invited to attend for an evening of fun and fellowship.



The members of the Christian Singles Group are invited to Nancy Dean's house to celebrate the beginning of a "New Year" on Friday, January 17, at 5:00pm.

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

## REST YOUR NEEDLES AND FINGERS!!!

Another successful year! After six sew and knot days we have accomplished a lot so everyone needs a break. Thanks to everyone that helped this year - from donating material, sheets, thread, batting and, most importantly - HELP in sewing and knotting.



The sew and knot day ladies completed 42 Mission quilts and 29 fleece blankets! We sent a grand total of 54 Mission quilts and 34 fleece blankets to the New Windsor Brethren Center for Lutheran World Relief distribution. The Adult Bible Class also gave us \$250 for the mailing expenses of the blankets.

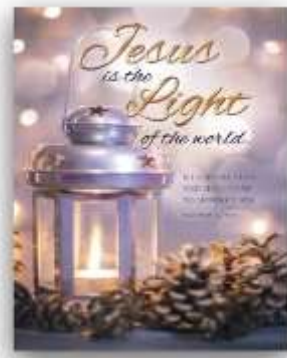
We are taking a break and will start up again in the new year - hopefully on Monday - February 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am till noon. Hope you can come and help out. It isn't difficult - you don't even need to sew! The more the merrier.

For those of you who have asked - I did find my grandson eventually!

Gloria Kniss

## All Day Scrapbooking

*Have you started on your gifts yet? If not, you are running out of time! Come see if you can catch up and finish some of your scrapbooking projects with us on Saturday, December 7 for a great day of scrapbooking. Please contact Kristy Lea Dean at [buyabasket@kristydean.com](mailto:buyabasket@kristydean.com) or Genny Resch at [gresch@mghus.com](mailto:gresch@mghus.com) for more information.*



# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH



The Soup Kitchen Committee would like to say **THANKS** to all who have previously answered the call for plastic containers. The time has arrived to put out the call for **MORE** plastic containers. We appreciate any that you could provide us to assist with this ministry.

Our next Soup Kitchen will be Friday, December 27 at 10:30 am. If you would help us at the actual soup kitchen or if you would like to make or donate a dessert, please contact Lisa Gavin 410-857-1499 or Jackie Leister 410-259-5535. Your support is much appreciated as we serve our community.



## IN APPRECIATION

*Dear St. John's Family & Friends,  
On behalf of our family, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the beautiful flowers given in memory of our mother, Mittie Coppersmith. Your expression of sympathy by way of cards, visits, thoughts and prayers have given us great comfort during this difficult time.  
God Bless each of you,  
Carole, David, Joan and Families*

*Dear Friends in Christ,  
Thank you! We truly appreciate your gift of \$500.00 in congregational benevolence given to Mar-Lu-Ridge. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, I would like to convey my thanks and appreciation for this gift in support of our outdoor ministry. You are making a difference. We appreciate your prayers and ongoing support! Thank you again for your gift.  
God's Peach,  
Sarah Lefler  
Executive Director*

*Dear Members, Thank you for your recent generous donation of \$500.00 The environment of CLS allows for the students to develop academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Your donation goes directly to support the efforts of CLS and makes a direct impact on our students. CLS relies on community support to deliver on the mission of "Exceptional Education, Formed in Faith". As a member of the CLS community we value your support through this donation and for helping to spread our mission. Oh behalf of the students, faculty, staff and board of directors we thank you for your generosity!  
Sincerely,  
Mandy Gilbert  
CLS Principal*



# CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CONTINUES HELPING

**Giving Tree – Bare Necessities** – During the Advent Season, the Christian Outreach Committee will be collecting new underwear, bras and long underwear for adults (all sizes) for The Shepherd’s Staff. The drive will start Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your donations to the “Caring Corner” located in the Fellowship Hall or there is a basket in the Narthex. The Christian Outreach Committee would like to “thank” the congregation in advance for your support to this collection drive. For more information, please contact Roxanne Malbrough at [roxmlb@gmail.com](mailto:roxmlb@gmail.com) or Pam Goodson at [dpgoodone@msn.com](mailto:dpgoodone@msn.com).

**Cold Weather Shelter Committee** will serve their first meal at the shelter on Tues, December 10<sup>th</sup>. The committee will need 3 cakes for December 10<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your donation to St. John’s Lutheran Church by 4:00pm on that day. For more information contact Linda Sterner 410-596-3921 or [sternerlm@outlook.com](mailto:sternerlm@outlook.com).

The committee will be serving our second meal at the shelter on Tues, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Again, we will need 3 cakes or several batches of cookies. Please bring your donation to St. John’s Lutheran Church by 4:00pm on that day. For more information contact Linda Sterner 410-596-3921 or [sternerlm@outlook.com](mailto:sternerlm@outlook.com).

The Christian Outreach Committee will meet on Thursday, January 9, 2020, 3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this meeting.



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Thank you to Shirley Coe for the generous donation of new processional torches and brass candle followers given in memory of her son, John Wesley Coe. We will use our new processional torches for the first time on Christmas Eve. Thank you for your generous gift.

Thank you to everyone who worked to plan our 175th Anniversary Celebration! It was a wonderful day of worship, lunch and sharing memories.

## Pastoral Acts:

Funeral  
Shirley Daniels  
November 8, 2019

New Members  
November 24, 2019

Chantel, John, Jacob  
and Emma Yadush

Kayla Franck



**High School Youth Grade 9-12**  
January 24-26, 2020  
Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel  
10100 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842

Theme: **Can I ask that?**  
**Yes! Absolutely yes.**

Your questions, your doubts, your ponderings, your struggles, your faith, your experiences, your conversations - they matter. To you. And to the Church.

*There is nothing you can ask that  
will make God love you less.  
There is nothing you can ask that  
will make God love you more.*

God's grace is there for you in the midst of it all. Yet with each question you ask, and each conversation we have together as disciples of Jesus, our relationship with God is renewed, our discipleship is shaped, our connection to our community is remade.

Come and listen. Come and bring your questions. Come and share what God has put on your heart. Come and experience what the Holy Spirit will stir up for you and for the church in the midst of our conversations together.

Cost to you: \$100 for the weekend, includes housing, meals, program and t-shirt (except for meals traveling to and from the event).

**How do I sign up? Nonrefundable payment of \$50 (or pay \$100) and the registration form due into Pastor Kristin by Sunday, December 8.**



# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

## Men of the Congregation News for December and January

### PAST NEWS

**November 9:** The regularly scheduled breakfast meeting was held on Saturday, November 9 at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren. Phil Short presented a topic dealing with welcoming all people into organizations in which we are involved. That was followed by a discussion of, "The Name of Jesus."

### UPCOMING EVENTS (December 2019 thru March 2020)

**December 14:** The regularly scheduled breakfast meeting will be held at 8:00am, at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren.

**January 4: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE** Regular meeting will be held at 8:00am, at the Ascension Episcopal Church on Court Street in Westminster.

**February 1: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE** Regular meeting will be held at 8:00am, at the Ascension Episcopal Church on Court Street in Westminster.

**February 25:** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

**March 14:** Regular meeting will be at 8:00am, at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES







This season you can choose to purchase animal shares and/or beautiful red poinsettias for Christmas Eve. We invite you to remember or honor a loved one by ordering a poinsettia!

Deadline for ordering: Sunday, December 8, 2019  
Cost per plant: \$11.00  
Make check payable to: St. John's Lutheran Church (please write "Poinsettias" in memo portion of check)

Envelopes and pens will be available on the table in the Narthex. Place orders, along with your payment (cash or check) in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and put in the **offering plate** or the **Office Manager's mailbox**.

Total poinsettias plants: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact - phone number/email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(you will be contacted if there are questions about the information listed below)

**IMPORTANT:** The information you fill in **below** is what will appear in the special *Poinsettia Bulletin* on Christmas Eve. **Please PRINT clearly.** "Sections" 1 and 2 *must* be filled out!

1) My poinsettia(s) is(are) are given:

\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to the glory of God.

2) By: \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to retrieve your purchased poinsettia(s) after Christmas Eve service. All poinsettias left may be given to a shut-in. Call the office at 410-848-6402 with questions.



## “God’s Global Barnyard”



Matthew 25:35 - “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”

This Christmas Season, you can choose to purchase poinsettias and/or animal shares. Your animal shares will help purchase animals from “God’s Global Barnyard” a “good gift” program of the ELCA World Hunger program for families around the world (check out [elca.org/goodgifts](http://elca.org/goodgifts) for more information).

Due: Sunday, December 8, 2019

Cost per share: \$11.00

Make check payable to: St. John’s Lutheran Church (please write “Animal Shares” in the memo portion of the check)

Envelopes and pens will be available on the table in the Narthex. Place orders, along with your payment (cash or check) in an envelope marked “Animals” and put in the **offering plate** or in the **Office Manager’s mailbox**.

Total animal shares: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact - phone number/email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(you will be contacted if there are questions about the information listed below)

**IMPORTANT:** The information you fill in **below** is what will appear in the special *Animal Shares Bulletin* on Christmas Eve. **Please PRINT clearly.** “Sections” 1 and 2 *must* be filled out!

1) My animal share(s) is(are) given:

\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to the glory of God.

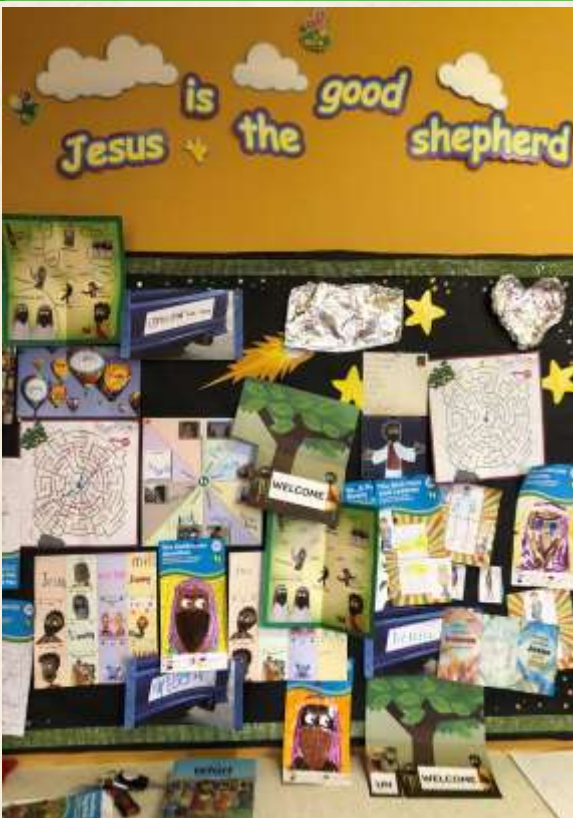
2) By: \_\_\_\_\_

# SUNDAY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

St. John's Sunday School Class has been busy during the season of Pentecost learning how we can share God's love with each other, our neighbors and around the world.

We have had a lot of lessons was about praying and we learned the "The Five Finger Prayer" to remind us who we should pray for. Using paint, the class made a handprint stole for Pastor Kristin to let her know we pray for her too.

Our children learned that although they are young, they can make a difference in the world. They can help "build our church!" Our class has a "giving" jar to collect change so that we can purchase a chicken through Lutheran World Relief. Don't worry parents! We made sure the kids know they will not be going home with a chicken!!





# ST. JOHN'S CELEBRATES 175 YEARS!



Bishop Gohl explaining his attire and why he needs a "shepherd's hook"!





# ST. JOHN'S CELEBRATES 175 YEARS!



St. John's members showing their best side... Ha! Happy Anniversary to all!





# OUR ANNUAL CONFIRMATION RETREAT AT MAR-LU-RIDGE

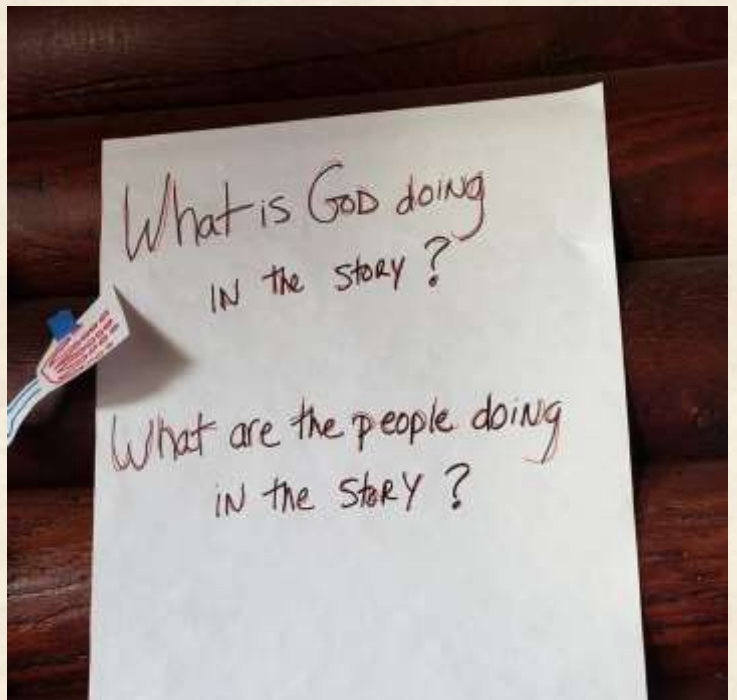


We had a blast with youth and leaders from 8 different churches, exploring stories of the Bible through our own creativity! There were lots of skits, artwork, and songs - it was a ton of fun!





# OUR ANNUAL CONFIRMATION RETREAT AT MAR-LU-RIDGE





# DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Jennifer Nevin	12/05	George Fleming	12/14
Petrina Gillman	12/06	Gregory Dell	12/16
Allison Sabo	12/06	Braiden Sabo	12/16
Hannah Sisler	12/06	Lynn Habicht	12/17
Andy Kleinschmidt	12/06	Carl Rebert	12/17
Kelly Cox	12/07	Joan Phillips	12/18
Elizabeth Short	12/08	Jean Seitz	12/18
Keith Siegman	12/08	Kayla Hunt	12/19
Robin Weisse	12/08	Christopher Short	12/21
Nancy Dean	12/10	Christine Brehm	12/23
Ian Bucacink	12/11	Carol Blubaugh	12/25
Douglas Goodson	12/11	Avery Dull	12/27
David Bollinger	12/12	Leslie Seitz	12/29
Elizabeth Kriel	12/12	Sandi West	12/29
Robert Blauvelt	12/13		
James Dodge, Jr.	12/14		



Nancy Boone	01/01	Matthew Resch	01/15
Debbie Miller	01/01	Karen Siegman	01/16
Sue Shaffer	01/02	William Tasker	01/17
Darrin Peregoy	01/02	Bronwyn Gay	01/18
Elizabeth Knisley	01/03	Megan Martindale	01/19
Ronald Menchey Sr.	01/03	Gloria Kniss	01/21
Shelly Brehm	01/04	Naomi Mathias	01/21
Megan Resch	01/05	Kristin Dubsky	01/23
Regina Resch	01/06	Jessica Seymer	01/24
Mary Blauvelt	01/09	Hannah Seitz	01/27
Marlyn Leister	01/09	Nicole Yeager	01/27
Nancy Tracey	01/09	Donna Armacost	01/28
Karen Monroe	01/10	John Brehm	01/30
Muriel Sabo	01/12	Betty Hoff	01/30
Lindsay Dodge	01/15		
Genny Resch	01/15		

# COUNCIL NOTES

## 2019 Council Members

## 2019 Committee Chairs

<p><b>Lori Bucacink</b> 410-857-5339 lisj@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Andy Kleinschmidt</b> 443-621-7144 ajk3797@yahoo.com</p> <p><b>Gary Leister</b> 443-340-2835 grleister71@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Melanie Martindale</b> 443-789-4592 mmartindale23@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Sharon Minor</b> 443-789-3019 ssisminor@hotmail.com</p>	<p><b>Carol Nevin</b> 410-876-2589 fburgman@aol.com</p> <p><b>Carl Rebert</b> 443-253-1573 cjrebert@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Matthew West</b> 410-848-4414 camelotwest@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Mick Zechman</b> 443-398-4299 mzechman@westgov.com</p> <p><b>Pastor Kristin Dubsky</b> 410-299-4853 pastor@stjohnswestminster.org</p>
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**Cemetery** ..... Ken Seitz

**Christian Education & Youth** ..... Genny Resch

**Evangelism** ..... Audrey Byrd

**Fellowship**..... Karen Siegman

**Finance** ..... Janet Gross  
John Bucacink

**Property** ..... Open

**Stewardship**..... Carl Rebert

**Worship & Music**..... Dennis Kniss



The Brethren Home Community of the Cross Keys Village in New Oxford, PA has a group that collect used stamps. The group processes them and sells them to buy items needed for the residents of that facility. With the money they have received, they have purchased wheelchairs, ride on scales, recliner chairs, defibrillators, geriatric chairs and shampoo recliners, just to name a few. You can help in this ministry by saving your used stamps. Simply cut the envelope in half to eliminate the address or cut around the stamp by 1/2 inch and bring it to the bin in the Caring Corner in Fellowship Hall marked Stamps. Thank you for helping the residents of this community. For questions contact Audrey Byrd at 4120-848-1995.





# DECEMBER 2019









Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>8:00 am</b> Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Education <b>10:30 am</b> Worship  Altar Flowers: Betty Blauvelt	<b>2</b>  <b>6:00 pm</b> 4-H Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Handbell Rehearsal  <b>7:30 pm</b> Church Council Mtg	<b>4</b>  <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> Sunshine Circle	<b>6</b>          	<b>7</b>  All Day Scrapbooking
<b>8</b>  <b>8:00 am</b> Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Education <b>10:30 am</b> Worship  Altar Flowers: Audrey Byrd	<b>9</b>          	<b>10</b>  <b>4:00 pm</b> Cold Weather Shelter Meal  <b>6:15 pm</b> Handbell Rehearsal	<b>11</b>  <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>          	<b>13</b>          	<b>14</b>  <b>8:00 am</b> Men's Breakfast @ Meadow Branch Church
<b>15</b> <b>Christmas Program</b> <b>NO 8:00 am</b> Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Education <b>10:30 am</b> Worship  Altar Flowers: Lynn Beard	<b>16</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> Coin Club	<b>17</b>  <b>6:15 pm</b> Handbell Rehearsal	<b>18</b>  <b>7:30 pm</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>          	<b>20</b>  <b>10:00 am</b> Christmas Bulletin Extravaganza  <b>5:00 pm</b> Christian Singles Christmas Party	<b>21</b>  Wedding (Time TBA)
<b>22</b> <b>Christmas Cantata</b> <b>8:00 am</b> Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Education <b>10:30 am</b> Worship  Altar Flowers: Andrea & Jon Cosentini	<b>23</b>          	<b>24</b>  <b>Christmas Eve Services</b>   <b>3:00 pm</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> <b>10:30 pm</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>Christmas</b> 	<b>26</b>          	<b>27</b>  <b>10:30 am</b> Soup Kitchen  	<b>28</b>          
<b>29</b> <b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b> <b>8:00 am</b> Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Education <b>10:30 am</b> Worship  Altar Flowers: Genny Resch	<b>30</b>          	<b>31</b>          				

# DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS/ OFFERING (10:30)	GREETERS	COUNTING TEAM
12/01	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Carol Lynn and Ken Siegman	Deb Schaefer Michael Schaefer
	10:30am	Donna Yeager	Lori Bucacink	Tate Gavin	Carol Blubaugh	David Ogg	Wanda Little Melanie Martindale	Dale Miller
12/08	8:00am	Carl Rebert	Carl Rebert	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Stacy and Larry Huber	Tracey Sanford Carl Rebert
	10:30am	Andy Kleinschmidt	Melody Hession	Grace Kleinschmidt	Carol Blubaugh	Barbara and Richard Smith	Jean Seitz Joan Phillips	Dave Bollinger
12/15		SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM	ONE SERVICE ONLY	NO 8 AM SERVICE TODAY				Joan Phillips Jean Seitz Ken Seitz
	10:30am	Doris Zepp	Stephanie Dean	Olivia Leister	Carol Blubaugh	The Leister Family	Lois and Phil Short	
12/22	8:00am	Dennis Kniss	Dennis Kniss	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Christine and Pat Brehm	Stewart Sterner Drew Dean
	10:30am	Roseanne Kleinschmidt	Mia Hoyer	Mason Dean	Carol Blubaugh	The Findeisen Family	Nancy and Bill Squires	Steve Findeisen
12/29	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Sharon and Dave Bollinger	Teresa McCulloh Donna Yeager
	10:30am	Donna Yeager	Teresa McCulloh	Spencer Goodson	Carol Blubaugh	Gloria Kniss	Andrea and Jon Consentini	Bryan Yeager



# JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> New Years Day 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> All Day Scrapbooking 
<b>5</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship  2:00 pm Fellowship Hall In Use	<b>6</b>  6:00 pm 4-H Meeting	<b>7</b>  6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal  7:30 pm Church Council	<b>8</b>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b>  3:00 pm Christian Outreach & Cold Weather Shelter Mtg		
<b>12</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal	<b>15</b>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  5:00 pm Christian Singles @ Nancy Dean's	<b>18</b>  1:00 pm Fellowship Hall In Use 
<b>19</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal	<b>22</b>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  High School 	<b>25</b>  Road Trip
<b>26</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship 	<b>27</b>  6:30 pm Coin Club	<b>28</b>  NO Handbell Rehearsal	<b>29</b>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b>		

# JANUARY 2020 WORSHIP LEADERS

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS/OFFERING (10:30)	GREETERS	COUNTING TEAM
1/05	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****		Tracey Sanford Carl Rebert
	10:30am	Carl Rebert	Mia Hoyer	Spencer Goodson	Gloria Kniss Sharon Minor	The Leister Family	Blythe and Mick Zechman	Dave Bollinger
1/12	8:00am	Dennis Kniss	Dennis Kniss	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****		Deb Schaefer Michael Schaefer
	10:30am	Doris Zepp	Stephanie Dean	Mason Dean	Gloria Kniss Sharon Minor	Gloria Kniss	The Findeisen Family	Dale Miller
1/19	8:00am	Lori Bucacink	Lori Bucacink	*****		*****		Teresa McCulloh Donna Yeager
	10:30am	Donna Yeager	Teresa McCulloh	Tate Gavin	Gloria Kniss Sharon Minor	David Ogg	Andrea and Jon Cosentini	Bryan Yeager
1/26	8:00am	Melody Hession	Melody Hession	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****		Stewart Sterner Drew Dean
	10:30am	Andy Kleinschmidt	Gloria Kniss	Grace Kleinschmidt	Gloria Kniss Sharon Minor	Nancy and Bill Squires	Wanda Little Melanie Martindale	Steve Findeisen



## Prayer



## Requests

MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S: George Amoss, The Family of Theo Amoss, Jacob Armacost, Dave Basler, The Family of Lavena Basler, Levi Blubaugh, Lily Blubaugh, John & Betty Boone, Charles Brehm, Pat Brehm, The Family of Mittie Coppersmith, The Family of Shirley Daniels, Donald Dell, Beverly Dutterer, George Fleming, Janet Gross, Donald Heath, Jeanne Joiner, Betty Knisley, Paul LeDuc, Olivia Leister, Yvonne Mathias, Sue Mencer, Phyllis Menchey, Bonnie Null, Claire Null, Melanie Ogg, Joseph Olenik, Stanley Parks, Doris Rebert, Muriel Sabo, Tracey Sanford, Anna Rae Siegman, Barbara Smith, Emily Van Horn, The West Family, Lorrie Wilson, Jean Yeakel, Gloria Yingling, Pastor Michael Dubsky and Chaplain Jimmie Schwartz.

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Karen Aldridge, Helen Armacost, Ed Arnold, Joann and Lou Bardiche, Keely Barkell, Taylor Barnes, Family & Friends of Rita Batho, Marcia Batista, The Family and Friends of Kelsey Berry, The Bogdan Family, Ronald Boone, The Bordenski Family, Dana Byrd, Chris Clise, Scott Cronkite, Tammy Crosby, Jerry Day, Demetrius, Frank DiTaranto, Lindsey Durm, Ella Edwards, Robin Ehrenfeld, Stacey Erich, Jackie Farver, Christian Filippo, Morley Frodo, Red and Carol Fun Danish, Marg Goodlin, Gini Gordon, Pat and Jerry Gratefully, Family and Friends of Laurel Greeley, **Andrew ("Will") Hacked**, Natalie Halpin, Dave Haschert, Elwood Hawes, Sr., Tom Hoekstra, Sherry Honeycutt, Dawn Itzel, Lisa and Kevin Jones, Pastor Bob Kidd, The Knepp Family, Mamie Koontz, The Family of Lorraine Kopp, The Family of Jeannie Leister, Don & Charlotte Ludwig, Nick and Darlene Majorcazak, The Family of Maria Malbrough, The McGuire Family, Joe McLaughlin, The Mesick Family, Pastor Richard Michael and Eva Michael, Wyatt Miller, Jeanne Mueller, Erin Murphy & Haitian Timon Foundation, Kay Murphy, The Family and Friends of Harold Nelson, Kim Piet, Tim Riddle, Hal Roche, Beverly & Jack Rose, Jessica Runnels, Ann Schmidt, Zella Sherman, The Family of Haylee Shifflett, Ms. Wilda Simpson, Anne Smith, David & Debbie Smith, Carolyn Snyder, The Family and Friends of Ridgely Spence, Aileen Strobel, Joan Tait, Margot & Jessica Villanueva, Elizabeth Watson, Hal Water, Tammy Williams and Signa Yingling.

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Keith Blizzard, Marshall Brown, Barry Durm, Katie & Brian Fenstermaker, Michael & Lucia Gaffney and Tim Priester.

*This prayer list was updated on November 25, 2019.*

## Thank Offering Fund

Our Thank Offering Fund continues to be a significant resource for our congregation. On behalf of St. John's we are very happy and thankful for the congregation's response and offerings to this date. We all hope this fund can help our church mission go forward without many of the financial problems and needs that confront other congregations. Remember this fund will be used in the future to help balance a yearly budget or for other missions of the church that the Finance Committee and Church Council approve.

Below are several ways that a member can make a donation to the fund. This will be an ongoing fund to which a member can contribute at any time writing their request through church envelopes, E-giving or any of the other options suggested.

### Ways that you can contribute to the ongoing spirit of Christ in our church!

Donation Cash or Check;  
Appreciated Securities; Real Estate; Bequests (Wills & Trusts); Life Insurance; Qualified Retirement Plans.

## Electronic Giving is Easy!

As a way to automate your weekly or one-time offerings, Electronic Giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. Electronic Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. This can be done in one of two ways: 1) Fill out an Authorization Form (found outside the church office) and send it to the church office, or 2) Go to the church website ([www.stjohnswestminster.org](http://www.stjohnswestminster.org)) and click the green "Online Giving" button at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.



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## THRIVENT MEMBERS: Update On Action Teams and Direct Choice Dollars

Congratulations! Eligible Thrivent members utilized \$5,250 last year for church related activities and mission projects. There were 21 action team projects in all! Thank you for taking the time to apply and utilize Action Team money. If you did not apply for your Action Team money, the money was put back into Thrivent's account.

I have a list of projects that you can pick from if you are not sure of where to put your Action Team Money. Talk with me or call me if you need ideas and are willing to use the Action Team Money (\$250.00). I can assist you in the paper work and ideas for the money.

Gloria and Dennis Kniss, Congregational Advocate for Thrivent  
717-359-7681 or 443-605-4963  
Email: [dennisrkniss@gmail.com](mailto:dennisrkniss@gmail.com)

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road Westminster, MD 21157 410-848-6402 [www.stjohnswestminster.org](http://www.stjohnswestminster.org)  
*St. John's Epistle is published each month by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westminster, Maryland.  
St. John's is a congregation of the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

**Articles for the February Newsletter should be submitted no later than January 14, 2020!** Please send the articles to Deb, the Office Manager, at [office@stjohnswestminster.org](mailto:office@stjohnswestminster.org) or place them in her mailbox.

**Thank you!**



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road, Westminster, MD 21157 • 410-848-6402 • www.stjohnswestminster.org

**Pastor:** The Rev. Kristin Dubsy • pastor@stjohnswestminster.org - 410-299-4853

**Office Manager:** Deb Priestler • office@stjohnswestminster.org

**Organist:** Maggie Langdon - mlangdon47yahoo.com **Choir Director:** Dennis Kniss - dennisrkniss@gmail.com



## Worship Schedule - September 8 - June 7, 2020

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

9:15 am Education Hour

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

### *Please contact the church office....*

... if you move to a new address or your telephone number or email address changes.

... if you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so the pastor may schedule a hospital visit.

... when a member of your family leaves home for college.

... when your committee or group plans a meeting or an activity—the date needs to be cleared and the church calendar noted.

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church