

Pastor's Note

January is a time of New Year's resolutions. We make a commitment to lose weight or to manage our money more wisely or attend to those less fortunate than ourselves more effectively. Some people joke about New Year's resolutions, as if they only lasted about a week or so. Here are a few pointers that will improve our odds of actually making changes for better selves and a better world.

1. Be as specific as possible. "I will save more" sounds fine, but if you actually put ten dollars a week into a special savings account, that is going to work.
2. Focus on what you can do this day. "I will lose fifty pounds" works less well than, "I will not eat dessert today." Then honor the fact that you made it through the day without dessert.
3. Find someone to whom you can be accountable. This is a person whom you can tell your successes and your discouragements, who will encourage you.
4. Expect pushback, both from yourself and from your friends. Most of us like things to remain familiar, even if they are bad things. When we realize we are actually changing, we will come up with all kinds of excuses to stay the same. Don't.

5. Halfway there is the most dangerous place. Beware of being comfortable. When we are comfortable but not established in our new habit, it's easy to slide back into old ways. Don't let up until you've gotten where you want to go.
6. Pray for your change every day. We have access to a power greater than ourselves. God will probably not wave a hand and make things all better. God will, however, give us strength for this present moment.

Jesus calls us to a life of constant repentance, constant turning back toward God's life. How can we make changes that will be a part of that life bringing hope and health and justice in ourselves and in our world?

God's Blessing,
Pastor Andy

CHRIST CARING FOR PEOPLE THROUGH PEOPLE

This is the motto of Stephen Ministry. The role of a Stephen Minister is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through difficult times. A Stephen Minister is trained to listen, support, encourage and pray with and for another person. It is a one-on-one caring and confidential relationship. If you or someone you know is facing difficulties and may benefit from contact with a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Andy.

What Are the Youth Up To?

December:

On December 3rd after late service, about a dozen members of our youth and choir went caroling and visited a handful of our homebound members. A good time was had by both performers and those we visited!

January:

On Saturday, January 6th, the annual Winter Jam concert will take place at Freedom Hall, featuring Christian music from a variety of genres. We are hoping to coordinate with other nearby churches to all go and sit together. Doors will open at 5:00pm, and tickets are \$15 at the door. Please let Whitney know if you are interested in coming!

On Sunday, January 7th after late service, we will be having an ALL YOUTH MEETING. We will be discussing the plans for 2018 and the current state of the Youth program. Youth and parents, PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO ATTEND.

On Friday, January 19th, the youth will be going to Iceland Sports Complex for a game of Broomball, followed by a Lock-In at the church. Please let Whitney know if you are interested in joining for either (or both). Broomball will be \$15 per person.

Our monthly Contemporary Service will take place on Saturday, January 20th at 5:30pm.

February:

February is shaping up to be a busy month for our youth!

Saturday, February 10th will be a Bishop's Day event for the youth in Indianapolis. We are planning to go up the night before (Friday the 9th) for a few evening activities and will stay at a local church. Please let Whitney know if you are interested in joining.

The weekend of February 16th-18th will be the annual YouthQuake event in Cincinnati. As always, the weekend will include workshops, music, group worship sessions, games and more. Please let Whitney know if you would like to sign up, or if you would like any additional information.

SAVE THE DATE! On Saturday, February 24th, the youth will be holding a Trivia Night fundraiser, in conjunction with other youth throughout our conference. Tables will be \$120 each (and can accommodate a team of up to 8), and doors will open at 6:00pm.

Due to the multiple off-site events occurring during February, we will forego the monthly Contemporary Service for the month, and resume it in March.

Thyne and I are deeply touched by the many cards and gifts we have received from the people of St. John this Christmas. We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and that Epiphany and the whole of 2018 will be times of joy and growth.

God Bless, Pr. Andy

Women of St. John

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We have our quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 21st after second service with a meal provided. On the agenda will be deciding which organizations we are going to donate to. Previous choices have been Twisted Pink, Cedar Lake, Lifehouse and The Salvation Army. Please give this some thought before the meeting and be ready to vote. Look forward to seeing you there!

Valentine making will take place on Saturday, February 3rd. Put this on your calendar and watch the bulletin for more info as the date gets closer.

Thank you for all your support in 2017 as we made this transition from W/ELCA to The Women of St. John. If you haven't already, come check us out! We're having a great time and would love for you to join us! If you have any questions or suggestions please let someone on the executive board know. We want this organization to work for you!

President - Diane Kushman
Vice President - Margi Hahn
Secretary - Marlene Klingeman
Treasurer - Patti McNellis

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Did you know the word *ministry* in both Hebrew and Greek is the same word as servant? As servants, or stewards, of all God has created and given to us, we are responsible for the care of our neighbor (all people), and the sharing of our talents, resources, gifts and time. How will your stewardship grow in the new year ahead?

Book Club

We continue to meet the *second Tuesday* of each month at 6:30pm at Homemade Pie and Ice Cream Kitchen on Lexington Road.

We welcome all readers, even those who just want to hear about the books.

Our 2018 books:

Jan. 9th – *Isaac's Storm* by Erick Larson, a favorite author and, due to the recent hurricanes, seems a great read.

Feb. 13th – *The Red Garden* by Alice Hoffman

Mar. 13th – *The House on the Lagoon* by Rosario Ferret

Apr. 10th – *Victoria and Abdul* by Shrbani Basu

May 8th – *Brain on Fire* by Susannah Calahan

June 12th – *Boone* by Robert Morgan

July 10th – *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande

Aug. 14th – *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan

Sept. 11th – *Seven Lessons from Heaven: How Dying Taught Me to Live a Joy-Filled Life* by Mary C. Neal

Oct. 9th – *Endurance* by Scott Kelly

Nov. 13th – *Martin Luther* by Eric Metazis

A fun filled year of reading!

Notes from Fellowship

Thank you for signing up to provide items for pastry hour. All baked items can be placed in the freezer to be used for this fellowship time.

The Fellowship Committee invites you to attend the next Committee meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:30pm in Room 35. Thank you for bringing your ideas and God-given talents to the meeting.

Save the date...

January 21st - baby shower for Whitney Adkins, after 2nd service in Diehl Hall. More information is in the bulletin. It's a boy!

January Birthdays

David Gladstone	1/1
Don Finley	1/2
Whitney Adkins	1/4
Debbie Holt	1/5
Jim Kushman	1/5
Marshall Coleman	1/7
William Coleman	1/7
Ran Florence	1/7
Krysta Moore	1/7
Jack Jones	1/8
Meghan Kushman	1/9
Steve Njos	1/9
Madelyn Bartley	1/10
Gail Workman	1/10
Anna DuFour	1/11
Renee DuFour	1/11
Hannah Stemler	1/11
Linda DeVore	1/12
Warner Wicke	1/13
Carleigh Newman	1/15

Pat Pollock	1/15
Alen Coleman	1/16
Paul Konar	1/17
Christopher Kushman	1/17
Kate Mattingly	1/18
Jan Jensen	1/20
Natalie Lowen	1/20
Dave Booth	1/21
James Williams	1/21
Ryan Hamsley	1/23
Laura Novak	1/23
Rica Brown	1/24
Lola Howard	1/24
Debbie Lambert	1/24
Mona Thevenin	1/24
Lois Dick	1/25
Abigail Brown	1/26
Christian Rapp	1/26
Sarah Ward	1/27
Jose Zellers	1/27
Channa Newman	1/30
Kayla Abbott	1/31

January Anniversaries

Don & Mary Lou Finley	1/5
Michael & Jennifer Jarrett	1/28

Good Gifts Tree

In our third year of raising money for ELCA Good Gifts during Advent, you have made a difference around the world.

Through your generosity, this year St. John purchased the following:

11 Chicks, 1 Rooster, 5 Honey Bees, 9 Pigs, 4 Sheep, 11 Goats, and 10% of a Cow.

Keep Good Gifts going throughout the year by visiting elca.org/goodgifts.

JANUARY 2017 WORSHIP TEAM

1/7

1/14

1/21

1/28

Assisting Minister

8:45	Rebecca D	Jen S	Mrs. Shawn H	Diane K
11:00	Don F	Mr. Shawn H	Patti M	Mark L

Crucifer/Communion Asst

11:00	Amber L	Nicholas S	Ally L	David J
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Lector

8:45	Rena B	Margi H	Betty M	Lisa Y
11:00	Cindy L	Don F	Alice F	Rosie W

Ushers

8:45	Christi & Larry E	Lisa Y Linda H	Nancy & Barry F	Mary Lou & Don F
11:00	Terri M, Felicia D Tyler and Mark L	Ann H Rosie W	Terri & Brian P Bill & Gail W	Chet L, Maryjo S Marty & Lisa D

Acolytes at 11:00am

Holly and Benjamin	Amber and Lauren	Haley and Destiny	Nicholas and Kai
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Altar Guild

Month of January – Dinah H

Communion Prep

8:45	Month of January – Jane B
11:00	Month of January –

Send a cheerful note to our members who are “under the weather” and/or can’t make it to church services or church events

If you would like a copy of the addresses, please let Rebecca know and she can email or mail the list to you.

Joy LaRue
Barbara Huber
Vivian Lenberger
Sylvia Grass
J. Herman Mahaffey

Lorraine Beyer
Ott & Dot Pollei
Warner Wicke
Rose Mary Sample
Nancy Robinson
Ed Meyers

St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville, KY 40207

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JANUARY 2018

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



St. John Journal

St. John Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, grace-based
community proclaiming the gospel through word and deed.

Worship at St. John

Sunday

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Worship on Wednesday

at 7:30 p.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Church Telephone

& Fax Number

Voice: 502-895-9320

Fax: 502-895-3979

E-mail

stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org

Office

Staff

Pastor Andy Rutrough

Pastor

Rebecca Dimon

Administrative Assistant

Whitney Adkins

Youth Project Coordinator

Maggie Owens

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist

Mr. David Alcorn

Custodian