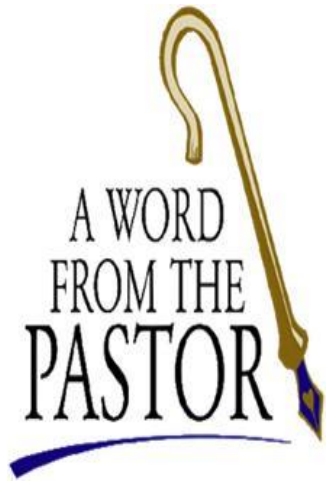


Pastor's Note

In the church year, Christmas ends January 5, on Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi bringing gifts to the Christ Child. By this time, most of us are partied out. We have had enough of being merry.



Some of us, however, say "Christmas is about much more than just parties and merry-making. Christmas is about hope and wonder and compassion and

faith. Why can't we have a spirit of true Christmas all year long?"

Well, we can, and should. And indeed the Christ Child is present with us all the time, just as the Crucified One, the Risen Christ and the Christ Who Is to Come all accompany us each day. But if we remember all of them each day, if each day is special, then no day will be special. We need special days to remind us of the things we value most—Christmas, birthdays, national holidays, Easter. These times of special brightness show us how utterly the light transcends us.

On the other hand, ordinary time and everyday life have equal power and depth. The prayer we say over our meals every day is a strong chord that binds the world together. The hug we always give a child becomes a figure for the arms of God, which always embrace.

So we have special times and the ordinary times, Christmas Time and the rest of winter, Easter and summer. We go back and forth between the two, and by doing that, honor the presence of God in both.

Blessings,
Pastor Andy

Wednesday

Wednesday Worship

Wednesday Worship in January will take place at 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The afternoon time is moving from its 12:00 noon time to one hour later.

Substitute Choir Director



Our wonderful choir director, Dr. Maggie Owens, will be on maternity leave in January and part of February. During that time, Katie Cook will direct the St. John choir. She teaches choir at Western Middle School for the Arts and is also one of the music directors on staff with Louisville Youth Choir.



New Worship Response

On November 5, the Congregation Council and the Connect Transformational Ministry Team discerned five Guiding Principles and a Purpose Statement for our next 3-5 years. We did this after examination of the congregation's history, its gifts and assets, several interviews of community leaders, and a look at the demographics of our church and surrounding area. The five guiding principles are:

1. We are a welcoming community.
2. Grow spiritually through scripture, sacrament, prayer, and music.
3. Build relationships with community by sharing God's love.
4. Show Christ to the world through invitation, service, and action.
5. Celebrate the joy of the Lord.

Our mission statement has not changed. It continues to be, "We are a grace-based, Christ-centered community proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed."

Pastor Nancy Nyland recommended finding a purpose statement that was less than twelve words long, and could be understood by a seventh grader. Here is ours: Sharing Jesus through worship, learning, caring, and service.

So starting January 5, the dismissal at the end of worship will read, "Go in Peace, Serve the Lord," And the congregation will respond "Sharing Jesus through worship, learning, caring and service."

This will help us remember and celebrate what we do: Share Jesus. It will help us draw power from worship and learning, so that we can share Jesus through our caring and service, both at church and in each day of our lives.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Journal Announcements

We LOVE to hear from everyone's groups, committees, and activities. Please send us your announcements and information by the 15th of the month, so we can tell everyone what you are doing!

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed January 1, New Year's Day, and January 20, Martin Luther King Day.



Flying Axes

I know you've always wanted to do this, so come with Physical Activities group to Flying Axes, 146 North Clay St., Louisville, KY, 40206, on Saturday, January 25, from noon to 1:00 p.m. and throw an axe or two. The cost is \$20 per person, you must be over 13 years old and have to wear closed toes shoes. If you're just dying to do this, we need your payment by January 15 because we have to make reservations. We can carpool if people would like and then do lunch afterwards for those interested. Please call and/or give payments to Diane Kushman. Come on! It'll be fun!



Book Club

We continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Homemade Ice Cream & Pie Kitchen, 3737 Lexington Road.

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

Our 2020 books are...

Jan 14 – *The Goldfinch*, Donna Tartt

Feb 11 – *Nothing to See Here*, Kevin Wilson

Mar 10 – *The House by the Lake*, Thomas Harding

Apr 14 – *Bad Blood*, John Carreyrou

May 12 – *One Thousand White Women*, Jim Fergus

Jun 9 – *The Last Days of Night*, Graham Moore

Jul 14 – *Radium Girls*, Kate Moore

Aug 11 – *No Surrender*, Chris Edmonds

Sep 8 – *The Dutch House*, Ann Patchett

Oct 13 – *The Island of Sea Women*, Lisa See

Nov 10 – A classic book of your choice

What are the Youth Up To?

November

Since Thanksgiving came so late this year, we weren't able to get a final recap into December's newsletter, so to update everyone on the youth's Thanksgiving efforts, we were able to make four pans of mashed potatoes, four pans of yams and donate pans of green beans and dressing to Wellspring for the meal they serve to those

with mental illness. In addition, the youth took the remaining five baskets from the narthex and filled them to donate to St. MAM for their annual Thanksgiving collection. Thank you to all who helped out!

December

On Sunday December 8, the youth and choir visited several of St. John's homebound members to sing Christmas carols! It was a fun time for the carolers, and the residents we visited really enjoyed their time with us!

On Saturday December 14, the youth went to Climb NuLu and did some rock climbing, followed by some ice cream! It was a really unique and fun experience for everyone, and Pastor Andy's injuries were only minor, so a successful trip!

January

The weekend of January 10-12, the youth will be heading to Cincinnati for the annual YouthQuake conference. This event includes live musical performances, guest speakers, workshops and lots of fun activities!

On Saturday January 25, the youth will be heading to Iceland Sports Complex for some ice skating! We will meet there at about 2:00 p.m. Let Whitney know if you are interested in coming!

February

On Friday February 7, St. John will be hosting our annual BROOMBALL game! We will be inviting all youth from throughout the conference, and youth of all ages are welcome to come and bring friends! This event is always a fantastic time, so don't miss it! Let Whitney know if you are interested in joining!

On Saturday February 29, St. John will be hosting our annual TRIVIA NIGHT event!

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for participants to get set up for the table decorating contest, and trivia will begin around 7:00 p.m. Participants are welcome to bring whatever food and drink they would like! Tables will be \$120 and can accommodate up to 8 players. Contact Whitney to make your reservation!

Endowment Committee News

We are pleased to report that the church's Endowment Accounts have been successfully transferred to Stolz-Smith Financial Consulting Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, are open and active and ready to accept new donations. We have actually received our first year-end gift of stock, which has been deposited in the Permanent Investment Fund Account. Anyone interested in finding out more may consult Matt Adkins, Jim Kushman or John Nordstrom. Pastor Andy also has information.

Christmas Decorations

On Saturday, January 11, we will take down Christmas decorations and settle in for the ordinary time of January. Contact Ann Hovell at (502) 523-0213 to volunteer or for more information.

Adult **Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School

Beginning in January, adult Sunday School will examine Luther's Small Catechism. This little book was first written as a text on basic Christian ideas. Over the centuries, it has continued to inform and

challenge and comfort our Christian journeys. Pastor Andy, Rev. Scott Meier and Rev. Laura Meier will lead discussion on the Catechism's insights on the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, Baptism and Holy Communion. Please join us from 10:00-10:45 Sundays starting January 5.

Activities Group

Activities Group: We have lots of fun activities in store for the spring. ALL are welcome to join us for exciting and energizing activities.

January 25 – AX THROWING. 12:00 to 1:00, 146 North Clay Street. If you are interested call Diane Kushman at (502)773-0836. The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations are necessary so please call and pay by January 15.

February 15 – CAVES NEAR CORYDON. Meet at St. John at 9:00 a.m. We will discover a cave and visit Downtown Corydon and have a shake at the famous Butt Drugs.

Women of St. John

We have our Quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 12, after the second service. Please come join us for lunch and planning for the new year. We have lots of proposals and hope all will be a part of the vibrant group that makes St. John a better place. Bring your ideas!

St. Matthews Area Ministries

St. Matthews Area Ministries (St. MAM) will conduct a winter coat and accessories drive from January 6-31. A receptacle will be placed in the narthex so that coats,

scarves, hats, gloves/mittens can be dropped off at our church for St. MAM. Heavy soups and hearty stews will also be the focus of a collection for "Souper-Bowl" Food Drive. Bring your cans to the church from January 26-February 2.



January Birthdays

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Donald Finley | 01/2 |
| Whitney Adkins | 01/4 |
| Sophia Iannone | 01/4 |
| Debbie Holt | 01/5 |
| Jim Kushman | 01/5 |
| Margaret Hugues | 01/6 |
| Marshall Coleman | 01/7 |
| William Coleman | 01/7 |
| Ran Florence | 01/7 |
| Krysta Moore | 01/7 |
| Jonathan Jones | 01/9 |
| Sarah House | 01/9 |
| Meghan Kushman | 01/9 |
| Steve Njos | 01/9 |
| Madelyn Bartley | 01/10 |
| Bruce Edwards | 01/10 |
| Gail Workman | 01/10 |
| Anna DuFour | 01/11 |
| Renee DuFour | 01/11 |
| Hannah Stemler | 01/11 |
| Linda DeVore | 01/12 |
| Gavin Bent | 01/13 |
| Carleigh Newman | 01/15 |
| Alen Coleman | 01/16 |
| Earlene Althouse | 01/17 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Paul Konar | 01/17 |
| Christopher Kushman | 01/17 |
| Kate Mattingly | 01/18 |
| Sydney Harvey | 01/19 |
| Natalie Schultz | 01/19 |
| Jan Jensen | 01/20 |
| Natalie Lowen | 01/20 |
| Martin Young | 01/20 |
| Dave Booth | 01/21 |
| Coleman Geraci | 01/21 |
| James Williams | 01/21 |
| Jeanne Romer | 01/22 |
| Ryan Hamsley | 01/23 |
| Marie Meininger | 01/23 |
| Laura Novak | 01/23 |
| Lilly Sample | 01/23 |
| Rica Brown | 01/24 |
| Joe Dye | 01/24 |
| Lola Howard | 01/24 |
| Debbie Lambert | 01/24 |
| Mona Thevenin | 01/24 |
| Lois Dick | 01/25 |
| Abigail Brown | 01/26 |
| Christian Rapp | 01/26 |
| Rob Baltrum | 01/27 |
| Leland Caswell | 01/27 |
| Sarah Ward | 01/27 |
| Jose Zellers | 01/27 |
| Colin Hovell | 01/28 |
| Channa Newman | 01/30 |
| Kayla Abbott | 01/31 |

January Anniversaries

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Donald & Mary Lou Finley | 1/05 |
| Dick & Kathleen Martin | 1/16 |
| Michael & Jennifer Jarrett | 01/28 |

St. John Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

Jan 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---|--------------------------|--|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | <p>New Year's Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>9:45am - Bridge</p> <p>7pm - OA (ABC) @</p> | <p>9 am - Walk & Talk</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Executive</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>10am - SOKY</p> <p>8pm - AA (ABC) @</p> |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| <p>8:15am - Choir</p> <p>8:45am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee and</p> <p>10am - Choir</p> <p>11am - Worship</p> | <p>10am - Monday</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Evangelis</p> <p>6:30pm - Property</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Evangelis</p> <p>6:30pm - Property</p> | <p>11am - Prayer Team</p> <p>12pm - Worship &</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - OA (ABC) @</p> <p>7:30pm - Worship &</p> | <p>9 am - Walk & Talk</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Congregati</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>10am - SOKY</p> <p>12pm - Private</p> <p>8pm - AA (ABC) @</p> |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| <p>8:15am - Choir</p> <p>8:45am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee and</p> <p>9:45am - Sunday</p> <p>10am - Choir</p> <p>11am - Worship</p> <p>12:15pm - WOSJ -</p> | <p>10am - Finance</p> <p>10am - Mom's Club</p> <p>11am - Care and</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Book Club</p> | <p>Journal Deadline</p> <p>11am - Prayer Team</p> <p>12pm - Worship &</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - OA (ABC) @</p> <p>7:30pm - Worship &</p> | <p>9 am - Walk & Talk</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6pm - Worship &</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>10am - SOKY</p> <p>8pm - AA (ABC) @</p> |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| <p>8:15am - Choir</p> <p>8:45am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee and</p> <p>10am - Choir</p> <p>11am - Worship</p> <p>12:15pm - Stephen</p> | <p>Martin Luther King</p> <p>10am - Monday</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>7pm - Christian</p> | <p>11am - Prayer Team</p> <p>12pm - Worship &</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - OA (ABC) @</p> <p>7:30pm - Worship &</p> | <p>9 am - Walk & Talk</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>7pm - South Central</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>9 am - Endowment</p> <p>10am - SOKY</p> <p>8pm - AA (ABC) @</p> |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| <p>8:15am - Choir</p> <p>8:45am - Worship</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee and</p> <p>10am - Choir</p> <p>11am - Worship</p> <p>12:45pm - Confirmat</p> <p>3pm - Private Event</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>11am - Prayer Team</p> <p>12pm - Worship &</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir</p> <p>7pm - OA (ABC) @</p> <p>7:30pm - Worship &</p> | <p>9 am - Walk & Talk</p> <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | <p>5:30pm - Our Lady</p> | |

JANUARY 2020 WORSHIP TEAM

| | 1/05 | 1/12 | 1/19 | 1/26 |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Assisting Minister</u> | | | | |
| 8:45 | Jennifer S | Rebecca D | Diane K | Mrs. Shawn H |
| 11:00 | Mr. Shawn H | Terri M | Mark L | Patti M |
| <u>Crucifer/Communion Asst</u> | | | | |
| 11:00 | Nicholas S | Amber L | David J | Holly P |
| <u>Lector</u> | | | | |
| 8:45 | Renae B | Mrs. Shawn H | Denise P | Mr. Shawn H |
| 11:00 | Sherley S | Marty D | Betty M | John N |
| <u>Ushers</u> | | | | |
| 8:45 | Linda & Lisa | Larry & Christi | Barry & Nancy | Paul & Dinah |
| 11:00 | Tom J, Sherley S Eddie M, Ann H | Margi H, Lisa D Terri & Jake | Doug & Andrea P Matt & Whitney | Nordstrom's Dan L |
| <u>Acolyte</u> | | | | |
| 11:00 | Ben S | Jake M | Lauren J | Nathan J |
| <u>Altar Guild</u> | January – Joanne N | | | |
| <u>Communion Prep</u> | | | | |
| 8:45 | January – Renae B, Diane K, and Karen K | | | |
| 11:00 | January – Dawn P | | | |

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 emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Lorraine Beyer
Vivian Lenberger
Phyllis Neumayer
Bob Pilkington
Skip Stearman
Shirley Whonsetler

St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville, KY 40207

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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.
Wednesday
7:30 p.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Church Telephone & Fax Number

Voice: (502) 895-9320
Fax: (502) 895-3979

Email

stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org

Visit us on the web at
www.stjohnlutheranky.org
or scan the QR code.



Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

Pastor

David McNease

Office Administrator

Whitney Adkins

Youth Project Coordinator

Dr. Maggie Owens

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist

