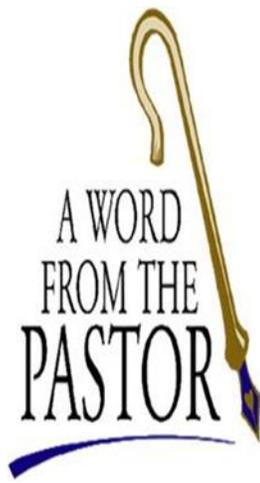


**Pastor's Note**

January is a time when we return to ordinary things. The hopeful expectation of Advent and the joyful celebration of Christmas are finished. Or, for some of us, the dread of Advent and the sadness of Christmas is finally over. We can get back to the everyday, the regular and unremarkable.

This is sometimes where God works most deeply.

In the spectacular and miraculous, we say to ourselves "Oh look, God is there. God is with us."



When the earth sleeps in cold, damp grey; When we bundle up and keep on plowing through the wind, even though it

bites, it is easy to say, "God is not here. God has gone away."

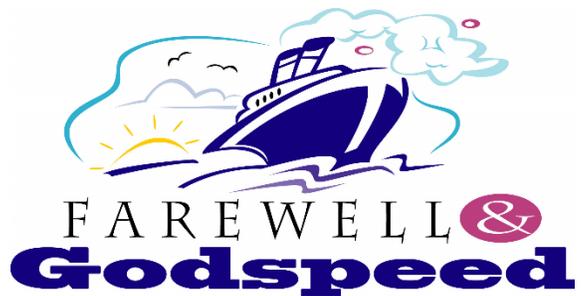
But God has not gone away. God is with us then, too. If we say that God is with us, whisper it, even, to ourselves, then we will feel God more closely. Over time, that feeling of God will grow into a more real, more challenging and solid presence.

Try this: whisper "Emmanuel" as you walk through the cold. Whisper it again and again. Say "God is here," when you are waiting at a stoplight. Cross yourself when you get into the shower. Say grace over your meals, if only to yourself: "Dear God, thank you for this food, Amen."

God is just as close in the everyday as in the special, just as powerful in the ordinary as in the remarkable. God makes it all holy.

We will see that, if get into the habit of looking.

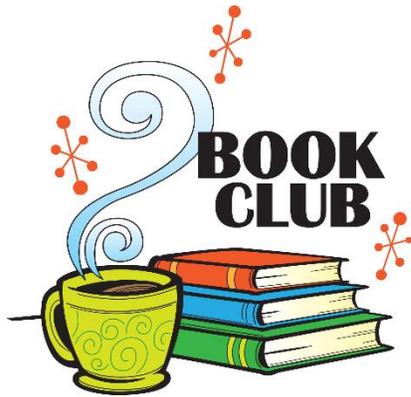
God's Blessing,  
Pastor Andy



**Farewell to Maggie Owens**

Maggie Owens has served as a wonderful choir director for nearly six years. At this time, however, she feels that a full-time teaching job, two children under five at home, and a position as church choir director are too much. So, she will be leaving us at the beginning of January. Her final worship leadership will be the Taizé service Wednesday January 5 at 6:30. We will hold a reception for her after 11:00 worship Sunday January 2. We thank God for the gift of music she has shared with us, and pray for God's blessing in her next ventures.

Isaac Smith will be serving as interim musician at Wednesday night Taizé services. Early in 2022, choir and worship committee will be discussing next steps for our choir and music program.



### Wednesday Book Group

The Wednesday Book Group will resume at 4:00, Wednesday, January 5, online at our regular worship link. We will be reading *The Seeker and the Monk, Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton*, by Sophronia Scott. We will begin with the first chapter.



### Friends in Faith

January 23, 10:00-10:45. The topic will be tolerance for people different from us.



### Online Children's Time

**Online Children's Time:** January 9, 10:-15-10:45. Ali Plato will share with us about the baptism of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.



### Wednesday Taizé Services

On Wednesday at 6:30 Maggie Owens, Isaac Smith, Pastor Andy, and members of the choir offer a fifteen-minute time of singing and scripture online at our regular worship link. Anyone who wishes to come in person is also welcome. It is a moment of peace and reflection in the middle of the week.



### Online Worship

Daily Prayer – 12:00 Noon Monday-Friday  
Sunday Worship – 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Visit our website for links to online worship via Zoom. To access Zoom via telephone:  
Dial-in number – (301) 715-8592  
Meeting number – 671 535 477



### Bible Readings Discussion

Sunday mornings, 10:00-10:50, in Diehl Hall. Discussion of the Bible readings for the day.



## UNITED IN FAITH

### New Sacred Ground Opportunity

St. John's Sacred Ground conversation on issues of race, grounded in faith, is finishing Tuesday, January 4, at 6:30. However, another Sacred Ground conversation is starting, again, online, with Christ Lutheran Church in Valparaiso, Indiana. Again, you can participate in the conversation from your own home. The information is as follows:

Sacred Ground is a film-and-readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Christ Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, in partnership with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, invites you to join in this discussion circle beginning **Wednesday, January 12, 2022**, and meeting every other week for 10 sessions, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **We will meet via Zoom.**

For registration, go to:  
<https://clcvalpo.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1075908>.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Owen ([jlo46383@msn.com](mailto:jlo46383@msn.com)) or Kathy Sutherland ([ksutherland54@yahoo.com](mailto:ksutherland54@yahoo.com)).

For more information about Sacred Ground, please see this link:  
<https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/about>.



### Racial Resources

Racial Justice Team/Black History Month Resources, meeting virtually January 8, 10:00.

Join the IN-KY Synod Racial Justice team for a virtual gathering. We'll share worship resources for Martin Luther King Day weekend, ideas for educational opportunities, and action steps. This will also be a great opportunity to get to know others in our Synod who have a passion for racial justice issues, ask questions, and let us know about things you'd like to try or do.

To register for this event, please visit - <https://tinyurl.com/5fs63h4a>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with your own personal link to join the meeting, as well as instructions on how to dial in by phone if you have need to do so.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew DeLoera, [mmdeloera@gmail.com](mailto:mmdeloera@gmail.com).



**Thank you**

I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and gifts over Christmas. I'd also like to thank the many people who have volunteered and helped in the office in many ways during the past year. Your gift of your time and friendship is invaluable. It has been challenging to continue the usual work of the church, and still maintain a safe and healthy environment, but we've managed to do so. I look forward to another successful year in 2022!

David McNease



**In-Person 8:45 a.m. Worship**

The 8:45 a.m. service is now open for in-person worship. The same Covid protocols will apply to the 8:45 service as to the 11:00 service. Beginning in January we are no longer asking people to call the church office to register for worship ahead of time. We do ask that you sign your name as you enter church. Please wear a mask, speak or sing the hymns in a whisper, and observe social distancing. We will continue conducting both services on Zoom as well as in person. All who wish to come are welcome!



**COVID-19 Guidelines**

Recently guidelines have changed regarding wearing masks in public and social distancing. If you have to visit the church, **we ask that you still wear a face mask** while in the building. This includes fully vaccinated individuals. **Your face mask must cover your mouth and nose at the same time.** You must also maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet from others. We love seeing you, but encourage you to stay home and stay safe.



**Financial Update**

Monthly Financial Update

	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21
Income	\$22,700	\$27,549	\$17,152
Expense	\$22,118	\$43,665	\$21,183
Result	\$582	-\$16,116	-\$4,031

(Income less Expense)

November result is negative primarily due to a clerical error. Friends School rent was not posted in the correct month and would have offset the deficit. It should be noted that our year-to-date shortfall is significant and will be a challenge to make up, even with generous holiday contributions. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Diane Kushman if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.

# JANUARY Birthdays

## January Birthdays

David Gladstone	01/01
Don Finley	01/02
Whitney Adkins	01/04
Sophia Iannone	01/04
Debbie Holt	01/05
Jim Kushman	01/05
Margaret Hugues	01/06
Marshall Coleman	01/07
William Coleman	01/07
Ran Florence	01/07
Krysta Moore	01/07
Jonathan Jones	01/08
Sarah House	01/09
Meghan Kushman	01/09
Steve Njos	01/09
Madelyn Bartley	01/10
Bruce Edwards	01/10
Isaiah Phillips	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
Cynthia Lowery	01/14
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
Dave Booth	01/21
Coleman Geraci	01/21

James Williams	01/21
Jeanne Romer	01/22
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
Abigail Brown	01/26
Christian Rapp	01/26
Rob Baltrum	01/27
Leland Caswell	01/27
Sarah Ward	01/27
Jose Zellers	01/27
Collin Hovell	01/28
Channa Newman	01/30
Kayla Abbott	01/31

# JANUARY Anniversaries

## January Anniversaries

Don & Mary Lou Finley	01/05
Michael & Jennifer Jarrett	01/28



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property	9:30am - Bridge 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @ 7:30pm -	Council Reports Due Epiphany 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6pm - Executive	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	New Year's Day Office Closed 8pm - AA (ABC) @
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6pm - Congregation	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6pm - Congregation	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	Journal Deadline 9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
New Members 8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	Martin Luther King Office Closed 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Christian	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6pm - Worship &	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Sacred	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	12pm - Online Daily 5:30pm - Lourdes	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @

## JANUARY 2022 WORSHIP TEAM

**1/2**

**1/9**

**1/16**

**1/23**

**1/30**

### Assisting Minister (same person will serve at both services)

8:45 & 11:00	Cindy L	Mark L	Diane K	John N	Diane K
-----------------	---------	--------	---------	--------	---------

### Crucifer/Communion Asst (not needed until further notice)

11:00

### Lector

8:45	Margi H	Mark L	Eric H	John N	Mike M
11:00	Renaë B	Betty M	Sherley S	Dee L	Patti M

### Cantor (same person will serve at both services)

	Cindy L	Laura R	Diane K	James & Blair H	Diane K
--	---------	---------	---------	-----------------	---------

### Usher

11:00	Ann H	Edie M	Melissa W & Sherley S	Ann H	Melissa W
-------	-------	--------	--------------------------	-------	-----------

### Altar Guild

Dinah H, Brenda P

### Communion Prep (not needed until further notice)

8:45

11:00

---

*Send a cheerful note to our members who are "under the weather" and/or can't make it to church services or church events.*

Betty Eggers  
John Gray  
Vivian Lenberger  
Betty Pauley  
Nancy Robinson  
Skip Stearman  
Ruthann Stemler  
Shirley Whonsetler

If you would like a copy of the addresses emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office.

## St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane  
Louisville, KY 40207

Visit us on the web  
[www.stjohnlutheranky.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranky.org)

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Louisville, KY  
Permit No. 597

## JANUARY 2022

Time Sensitive Content  
Please Expedite+

**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. Online & In-person  
11:00 a.m. Online & In-person

#### Monday-Friday

12:00 p.m. Online

### 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

Phone: (502) 895-9320

Fax: (502) 895-3979

### Email

[stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org](mailto:stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org)



Visit us on the web at  
[www.stjohnlutheranky.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranky.org)  
or scan the QR code.



### Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

#### **Pastor**

David McNease

#### **Office Administrator**

TBD

#### **Youth Project Coordinator**

Dr. Maggie Owens

#### **Choir Director**

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

#### **Organist**