

Pastor's Note

Bishop Gafkjen sent a letter to the congregations of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod recently, encouraging us to persevere in the midst of the pandemic, to persist in faithful work to show the world who Jesus is, and to treat each other with Christian love. Evidently, people's nerves are frayed these days.

I think this is true. Many voices encourage us to feel resentful, angry, threatened, cynical, even hateful. Often, however, these voices are influenced by the desire to attract consumer attention and advertising dollars. After all, fear and anger attract more attention than level headed, sensible problem solving.

For us Christians, however, level headed, sensible problem solving is an expression of love. We know that God is with us, and that in the end we will be free, safe, joyful, and together. So, we do not have to be afraid. We are free to employ level headed, sensible problem solving.

Bishop Gafkjen encouraged us to hold up one another's hands, that is, support and listen to each other, and help each other through these days. The influence of the Covid-19 pandemic will fade. Our other problems and concerns are not all powerful. We are doing faithful witness. Thanks be to God.

God's Blessing,
Pastor Andy



Ash Wednesday Worship Service

We will hold our regular Ash Wednesday worship on Wednesday, March 2, 6:30 p.m. The service will be both in-person and online, with Holy Communion and imposition of ashes. Please join us.



Outdoor Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, March 2, 4:00-6:00 p.m. This ancient tradition reminds us that we are mortal, our abilities and energy are limited, and also that we are sinners and need God's help. Come to the front of St. John between 4:00 and 6:00 March 2, and we will say a brief prayer, mark the sign of the cross on your forehead with ashes and oil, and say this blessed reminder: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."



Blessing of Relationships

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, a blessing of romantic relationships will be offered at St. John on Sunday, February 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m. If your relationship is new and just beginning, we will say a prayer for healthy discovery and discernment. If your relationship is old and established, we will pray for good days and blessed years. If you would like to be in a romantic relationship and are not now in one, we will pray for you to find someone with whom to build one. If you are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered, we will give thanks to God for the love between you and your beloved, and ask God's blessing for you. If you are troubled in your relationship, we will pray for God's healing, strength, and wisdom. Come into the front of St. John, share what kind of blessing you would like, and we will pray for you.



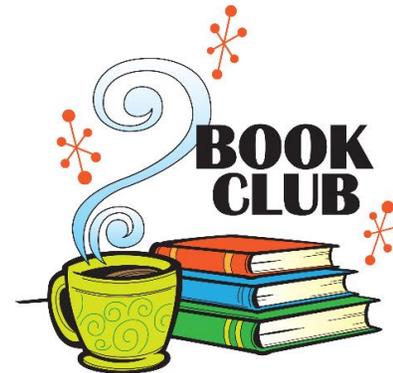
Council Retreat

There will be a Council Retreat on Saturday, February 5, from 10:00-2:00, Diehl Hall, online and in person. We will examine where the congregation is now and plan for the year.



Valentine Sunshine

For Valentine's Day this year we are sending Valentines cards to friends and family of the congregation who are homebound or who could use a boost. Please email names and addresses of people you know who could use a reminder of God's love to the church office by February 4. On the 6th, we will put the cards out for everyone to sign. They will be mailed on the 7th.



Wednesday Book Group

The Wednesday Book Group meets at 4:00, Wednesdays, online at our regular worship link. We are reading *The Seeker and the Monk*, *Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton*, by Sophronia Scott.



Online Children's Time

Online Children's Time: Sunday, February 6, 10:15-10:45. We will talk about following Jesus and what makes you happy.



Journals for Maryhurst

“Fill your paper with the breathings of your heart.” William Wordsworth

Before the pandemic, St. John invited girls from Maryhurst to our VBS, to be part of that ministry, to enjoy the social and spiritual time away from campus and to bless our ministry with their presence. Jose Zellers created a class for them where they felt welcomed. To help continue that connection in a safe way during the continuing pandemic, we on the Evangelism & Social Ministries Committee would like to fulfill one of Maryhurst’s requested wish list items, which is non-spiralbound journals.

Maryhurst is the only nonprofit in the state serving adolescent girls that the Cabinet for Health and Family Services has diagnosed as being severely traumatized by abuse. The girls at Maryhurst often come without individual belongings. Maryhurst does donation drives for items the girls need.

During the month of February, we’re asking for donations of journals either dropped off at the narthex at St. John or ordered directly through Amazon, to be blessed and taken to Maryhurst. The journals may be a place for reflection, for goal setting or for thoughts shared only with oneself.

Our goal is to collect 25 journals, so the women have many to choose from and Maryhurst will have several on hand. Each journal will have a bookmark, stating that the journal was provided by St. John with the hopes that it would be a tool for comfort and reflection.

The QR code here is a direct link to an Amazon list if you would rather not shop outside your home.



Joint Worship Rescheduled

St. George’s Episcopal Church has gone back to worshipping online only for the present time, so our 11:00 worship with them has been rescheduled to March 20.



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.



St. John Graduates

T Tyler Lynch graduated from the University of Louisville on December 17, 2021, with a degree in Meteorology through the Geography and Geosciences Department. He was most satisfied with the completion of his thesis, Hurricane Wind Gusts in Hurricane Michael, and the opportunity to successfully present it to the department. Although it was not ideal to have all classes after spring break 2021 online because of Covid, he managed to complete his degree, taking breaks to work out in the gym and help with house rehabs with his dad Mark Lynch.

Tyler's current goal is to secure a job, and thinks that becoming a meteorologist would be ideal. He is looking forward to the day when he and his buddies can take a post-graduation trip to Japan to celebrate this milestone.

Megan Pulford graduated in December, 2021, from Western Kentucky University

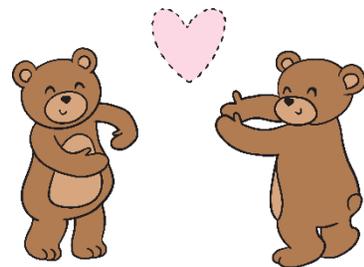
with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, with a focus in Forensic Psychology, a minor in Criminology, and a minor in Psychological Sciences. She earned this in 3.5 years, graduating early despite the added challenges of navigating a mix of in-person and online classes due to the Covid pandemic, and working outside of school many long nights.

Up next for Megan is to select a volunteer opportunity to use her newly acquired skills and begin to put them into practice, working outside of school, and weighing her graduate school options to continue her education.



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.



AIR HUG ZONE

Thank you for practicing
social distancing.



Financial Update

Monthly Financial Update

	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Income	\$27,549	\$17,152	\$42,582
Expense	\$43,665	\$21,183	\$25,724
Result (Income less Expense)	-\$16,116	-\$4,031	\$16,858

Result is positive this month for several reasons. It includes both November and December Friends School rent. Also includes several very generous regular and holiday contributions. End-of-year final result is -\$3,786.28. Not too bad, considering our ongoing Covid challenges and declining membership. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Diane Kushman if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.



February Birthdays

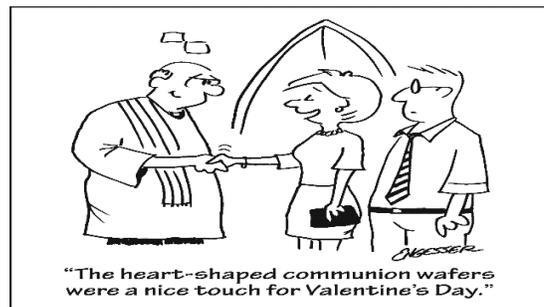
Zachary Adkins	02/02
Nicholas Gray	02/02
Morgan Hines	02/02
Jakob Njos	02/02
Leighton Cook	02/04
William Mattingly	02/05
Christi Elbert	02/06
Teresa Florence	02/06
Mikaela Munday	02/06
Kim Hahn	02/07
Anna McMahan	02/07
Alice Edwards	02/08
Matthew Pulford	02/08
Star Webb	02/09
Lori Heslin	02/10

Zachary Strickland	02/10
James Hines	02/11
Roger Caswell	02/12
Emily O'Dell	02/12
Julie Nehring	02/13
Marla Newton	02/13
Noah Brown	02/15
Michael Gray	02/15
Starr Panther	02/15
Kaleigh Coleman	02/16
David McNease	02/16
Don Parson	02/17
Russell Perry	02/17
Richy Hann	02/18
Doug Kottke	02/18
Darrell Schultz	02/18
Jill Hoskins	02/19
Lucy Offutt	02/20
Steve Florence	02/21
Rebecca Cox	02/22
Daniel Lowery	02/23
Betty Shumate	02/23
Nancy Hanson	02/24
Alexander Smith	02/24
Robert Goodin	02/25
Tom Ludwig	02/26
John Nordstrom	02/26
Mary Lou Finley	02/27



February Anniversaries

Jim & Diane Kushman	02/13
James & Sharon Heck	02/14
Charles & Janet Heitmiller	02/24
Chuck & Brenda Lind	02/25



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		First Day of Black 12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property	9:30am - Bridge 12pm - Online Daily 4pm - Book Club 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @ 7:30pm -	Council Reports Due 12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Executive	12pm - Online Daily	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 4pm - Book Club 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Congregation	12pm - Online Daily	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	Valentine's Day 10am - Mom's Club 12pm - Online Daily	Journal Deadline 12pm - Online Daily 6:30pm - Christian	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 4pm - Book Club 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Worship &	12pm - Online Daily	9am - SOKY 2pm - Eben-Ezel 8pm - AA (ABC) @
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 12pm - Stephen 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	Presidents' Day 12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 4pm - Book Club 6:30pm - Taize 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily	9am - SOKY 8pm - AA (ABC) @
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
8:45am - In-Person 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily					

FEBRUARY 2022 WORSHIP TEAM

2/6

2/13

2/20

2/27

Assisting Minister (same person will serve at both services)

8:45 & 11:00	Cindy L	John N	Diane K	Patti M
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Crucifer/Communion Assistant (not needed until further notice)

11:00

Lector

8:45	Dinah H	John N	John T	Denise P
11:00	Connie S	John N	Rosie W	Patti M

Cantor (same person will serve at both services)

	Cindy L	Laura R	Diane K	James & Blair H
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Usher

11:00	Ann H	Edie M	Rosie W	Joanne N
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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

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FEBRUARY 2022

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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. 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



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



Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

Pastor

David McNease

Office Administrator

TBD

Youth Project Coordinator

TBD

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist