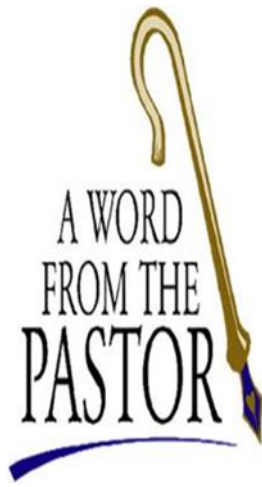


Pastor's Note

2024 is a leap year. That means that this year we add an extra day to the calendar, February 29, to keep our calendar consistent with the earth's orbit around the sun. You see, if we had no leap year every fourth year then our calendar would creep forward gradually, so that we'd end up having Christmas in the summer and Easter in the fall. That would be strange.



But which is stranger, our holidays creeping around the seasons, or the idea that we can just add a day, for the sake of convenience, to TIME?

God adds days to our time. Every day, God adds another day. And we do not know what it will bring. Sometimes the days pass quickly, especially when we're having fun. Sometimes they pass slowly, especially when we're not. Sometimes we look back on the years and wonder what happened to them all. Sometimes yesterday feels like forever ago.

Whatever time we are in, God walks with us through it. God laughs with us when the time runs sparkling like a brook in sunlight. God sits with us when we wait for news of a loved one's health, and the minutes crawl. God brings the presence of eternity, where creation sings together, in joy and grief and hope and love, forever and today.



Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes, 6:30 Wednesday Feb. 14. This service of confession and humility helps us let go of our pride, remember our mortality, and accept God's forgiveness. Somehow, it is a relief to hear those words, marked on our foreheads with the same cross as was marked at baptism: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."





Congregational Meeting

Feb. 18. Please stay after church a few minutes to review reports on 2023 and check in on any other business that might need to be addressed.



After worship, Feb. 25. Carrying the cross, believing in things you can't quite see.



Wednesday Lenten Services

6:30-7:00 Wednesdays starting Feb. 21, quiet services of contemplation and peace. The quilting group will provide a simple soup and bread meal at 5:45.



Confirmation at Ascension

Feb. 18, 1:00-4:00 at Ascension Lutheran Church. We will explore stewardship of creation, money and vocation.





Thrivent Dollars

Important message to all Thrivent members at St. John. We have until the 31st of March to donate our earned Thrivent dollars to the Charitable organization of our choice. St. John Lutheran Church in Louisville Ky. Is on that list. Please thoughtfully consider your choice, and notify Thrivent of your decision. Please don't let those dollars go unused! Thank you!



Financial Update

Monthly Financial Update

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
Income	\$36,009	\$36,294	\$60,487
Expense	\$25,720	\$16,820	\$27,030
Result	\$10,289	\$19,474	\$33,457

(Income less Expense)

Great news for December and the end of 2023! December giving was one of the highest on record, resulting in a positive end for the month of \$33,347! Our 2023 EOY result was also positive - \$26,459. This is an amazing finish to a very challenging year. Thank you so much for your support of the mission of St. John. Please continue with your generous contributions to help us achieve our goals! Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Marty Dick if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.



All-Church Potluck

Second Sunday Potluck

After worship Feb. 11. Please bring a side or dessert. Meat is provided.



Mental Health

Dear Friends in Christ,

When I talk with folks here at St. John, I find, again and again, that mental health is brought up as an issue that we deal with. This is especially true here in the middle of winter.

The synod has shared the following opportunities from the Learn to Live Clinical Team. Have a look at what they offer and if you are interested, visit them at <https://www.learntolive.com/webinars>

Welcome

We invite you to attend presentations hosted by the Learn to Live Clinical Team. These webinars provide useful tips and strategies to improve your mental wellbeing at no additional cost to you.

Register for an upcoming live webinar based on your preferred topic and date, or watch one of our recorded webinars now. Live webinars are hosted on Zoom and all registrants will receive a link to the recording after the webinar ends.

Upcoming Live Webinars:

Good News About the Winter Blues

For many of us, the winter months can feel awfully long with colder temperatures and far less sunshine. Motivation and mood can drop, either subtly or so significantly that even usual day-to-day activities feel impossible. But, in this 15-minute webinar, we will share the good news: that there are research-supported steps we can take to live fully, even through wintertime challenges.

- **Friday, February 9, 2024** 1:00 PM (Eastern time)
- **Friday, February 16, 2024** 11:30 AM (Eastern time)
- **Tuesday, February 27, 2024** 04:00 PM (Eastern time)

Building Stronger Connections for a Healthier Life

Research shows that connectedness is a key factor for health, but our connections with others are slipping. The Clinical Team will help you explore your own factors for connectedness and discuss ways to remove the barriers that keep you isolated.

- **Wednesday, February 14, 2024** 12:00 AM (Eastern time)

Why Do I Care So Much about What They Think?

Increased heart rate, sweaty palms, self-conscious thoughts, feeling isolated and lonely?? Do you worry about other's judgement of you too much? You aren't alone. Break through your social anxiety and fear of other's judgement by learning evidence-based strategies to help you live more fully!

- **Thursday, February 22, 2024** 1:00 PM (Eastern time)

FEBRUARY



February Birthdays

Morgan Hines	02/02
Jakob Njos	02/02
Isaac Smith	02/02
Leighton Cook	02/04
Christi Elbert	02/06
Kim Hahn	02/07
Russell Bent	02/08
Matthew Pulford	02/08
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
Matthew Abbott	02/14
Noah Brown	02/15
Kaleigh Coleman	02/16
David McNease	02/16
David Goodin	02/17
Russell Perry	02/17
Richy Hann	02/18
Doug Kottke	02/18
Steve Florence	02/21
Rebecca Cox	02/22
Daniel Lowery	02/23
Betty Shumate	02/23
Nancy Hanson	02/24

Robert Goodin	02/25
Carolyn Newton	02/26
John Nordstrom	02/26
Mary Lou Finley	02/27

FEBRUARY



February Anniversaries

Jim & Diane Kushman	02/13
James & Sharon Heck	02/14
Chuck & Brenda Lind	02/25

Puzzle!

After solving the equations, write the words on the correct numbered lines below. Complete Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) to discover how God shows his great love for us.

14 - 7 = ___ Father	10 + 15 = ___ in
10 + 9 = ___ heavenly	10 - 5 = ___ God
9 + 9 = ___ the	6 - 3 = ___ to
12 + 12 = ___ blessing	12 - 6 = ___ and
2 - 1 = ___ Praise	6 + 6 = ___ Christ
7 + 7 = ___ has	18 - 9 = ___ our
11 + 11 = ___ every	22 - 11 = ___ Jesus
13 + 13 = ___ Christ	1 + 1 = ___ be
8 + 8 = ___ us	7 + 6 = ___ who
10 + 10 = ___ realms	2 + 2 = ___ the
8 + 9 = ___ in	10 + 5 = ___ blessed
5 + 5 = ___ Lord	4 + 4 = ___ of
10 + 11 = ___ with	10 + 13 = ___ spiritual

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____ 17 _____ 18 _____

19 _____ 20 _____ 21 _____ 22 _____

23 _____ 24 _____ 25 _____ 26 _____

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Answer: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				Council Reports Due (1st) First Day of Black History 5pm - OLOL Basketball 6pm - Executive	5pm - OLOL Basketball	9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 3pm - Eben-Ezel 6pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	5pm - OLOL Basketball 6:30pm - Men's Group	5pm - OLOL Basketball 6:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Technology	9:30am - Bridge Club 5pm - OLOL Basketball 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	5pm - OLOL Basketball 6pm - Congregation		9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11am - Potluck Luncheon 3pm - Eben-Ezel 6pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)		Shrove Tuesday/Mardi	Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Ash Wednesday 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	Journal Deadline 4pm - Worship & Music 6:15pm - Evangelism &		9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11am - Congregational 1pm - Confirmation Class 3pm - Eben-Ezel 6pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	Presidents' Day 6:30pm - Men's Group	6:30pm - Christian	10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm - Lenten Worship 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC			9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11:15am - Friends in 12pm - Stephen Ministry 3pm - Eben-Ezel 6pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)			10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm - Lenten Worship 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC			

FEBRUARY 2024 WORSHIP TEAM

	2/4	2/11	2/18	2/25
<u>Assisting Minister</u>				
10:00	Cindy L	Renae B	Diane K	Ann H
<u>Lector</u>				
10:00	Margi H	Mike M	Dinah H	Rosie W
<u>Youth Lector</u>				
10:00	Alex B	Alex B	Emilia M	Magdalene M
<u>Cantor</u>				
10:00	Cindy L	Laura R	Diane K	Laura R
<u>Crucifer</u>				
10:00	Trey L	Melvin G	Trey L	Melvin G
<u>Acolyte</u>				
10:00	Alex B	Alex B	Emilia M	Magdalene M
<u>Usher</u>				
10:00	Rosie W	Joanne N	Edie M	Melissa W
<u>Communion Prep</u>				
10:00	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P
<u>Altar Guild</u>				
Dinah H, Brenda 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. Please contact the church office for addresses.

Vivan Lenberger
Betty Pauley
Nancy Robinson
Skip Stearman
Maxine Wines

St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville, KY 40207

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FEBRUARY 2024

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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

10:00 a.m. Online & In-person

Monday-Friday

12:00 p.m. Online

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 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