

Pastor's Note

When I was growing up in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, in the dark of winter, we used to drive on Highway 90 from Biloxi, across the bay, past Ocean Springs beach, past several subdivisions, past the African American section of town, and later on, past our church till we got home. The African American section had many small, old houses and a few nice, new ones. It held St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church, where we got barbecue chicken in the summer and where the Rev. Jesse Trotter became the first Black alderman in the city. It held Jocelyn's Seafood Restaurant, which grew its own mint for its mint juleps in a garden beside the restaurant, and served the best soft-shell crab in the world. It held many small homes, and one shack, where a single man lived, his tiny back yard slam up against the highway. I never knew him. But during Advent every year, he would set out Christmas lights across his home and across his yard, so colorful and so thick that when you drove by it in the winter dark, it looked like a glimpse of heaven.

I wish we could all be like that man. Compared to the powers of brutality and gloom in our world, our lives might seem small, like this man's home. We might feel like only one of a thousand passing, ramshackle structures people drive by every

day. But this man made his home into a testimony, a witness to the angels' light. The carols you sing, the kindness you give, the integrity you follow, the love you share is like that man's light. Small in the eyes of this world, yes, but testifying to triumphant joy.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Thanks for Your Generosity

We weren't sure we could do it, but God did it through us. A group of generous people at St. John set forth a \$20,000 challenge grant, that if we as a congregation could submit 60 new or increased intention of giving cards for 2023, then we would receive an additional \$20,000. It was a significant challenge, but you all came through by the grace of God. We received over 60 new or increased intention of giving cards, with a projected increase of a little over \$800 a week. With this increased income, we plan to hire a technology associate to help with our online presence and worship service, and we plan to hire a new choir director. Thanks be to God!



WELCOME *New Members*

New Members' Sunday

Dec. 4 at 11:00 worship: Carol Taylor, Charlotte Davis and Mark Davis will join St. John. Thanks be to God!



Help for RJ Eaton's Family

James and Kyla Eaton have set up a Go Fund Me page to help with medical and other bills. If you would like to find out how to assist them in this way, go to [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search for "RJ Eaton," or contact Pr. Andy.



Planning the Budget

Leftover Funds

If we have leftover money after paying our bills for 2022, we will put that extra money toward the purchase of a new sign. Our streetcorner is wonderfully busy. We would like to share our message and announcements more efficiently and effectively. Thanks be to God.



Thanks to Office Volunteers

I'd like to say a very special "Thank you!" to the volunteers who give freely of their

time and energy throughout the year in the church office. Your help is greatly appreciated! David McNease



Pastor On Vacation

Pr. Andy will be on vacation the afternoon of Dec. 25 through Jan. 2. He will be back in the office Jan. 3. Rev. Scott Meier will be preaching and presiding Jan. 1.



Christmas Choir

Christmas choir will begin meeting Nov. 20 at 10:00 in the Sanctuary. Rehearsals will continue Nov. 27, Dec. 4 and Dec. 11 at 10:00, and at 7:00 Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. Anyone interested in singing a simple choir piece Sunday December 18, please see Pr. Andy. Denine LeBlanc will be helping us prepare music.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS Wednesday Christmas Carols

Yes, we are budging and singing Christmas carols on Wednesday night, 6:30-7:00, in Advent. This thirty-minute service will include Bible passages, four carols, brief homily and communion. Anyone wishing to know more about this change in policy, please see Pr. Andy.



★ Children's ★
Christmas Video
Christmas Video

For the last couple of years, we have had children and youth of the congregation read portions of the Christmas Scripture while their parents, grandparents or others video them. Then we play the video at Christmas Eve service. If you have youth or children who are willing to read a portion of the Christmas Scripture, please contact Sherry Leister at sherleister@aol.com by December 5. She will assign a portion of the reading to you. Then, please send your video to her by December 14.



ELCA Good Gifts

November 27, we kick off Good Gifts 2022. This is the ELCA sponsored project raising funds to support global churchwide ministries. If you received their catalog, you will find many worthwhile gifts offered. (Catalogues are also available in the church office.)

At St. John we offer select animals "for sale" as donations to this project from our congregation. Our Crafty Ladies have designed ornaments for the three most popular animal gifts. We offer the

ornaments for sale through December 18. They are:

Goats \$50, Honeybees \$20, Piglets \$30. In addition we have a limited supply of "last chance" ornaments for Fish \$50 & Chicks \$10. Please note the ELCA no longer offers ornaments in their catalog. They are unique to St. John. We will have envelopes and cards to go with the ornaments.

These are offered the next four Sundays, or during the week at the church office. Checks can be made to St. John and noted "Good Gifts". It will be reflected in your annual envelope statement. Any questions? Contact John Burford 502-905-1366 or at johnburford9@gmail.com.



DECORATE
the Church
Decorating for Christmas

On Saturday, Dec 17th at 10:00 a.m. we will decorate the church for Christmas. Light refreshments will be served in the Diehl Hall kitchen. Come join us!



Christmas Poinsettias

We are taking orders for Christmas poinsettias. They are \$15.00 each and the colors are either red or white. The poinsettias will be used in the Chancel during the Christmas Season. The deadline to place orders is December 5, 2022. You may download the order form from the church website, the weekly St. John eNews, or pick one up at church.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

December Advent and Christmas

Advent Worship: 6:30 November 30.

Ornament Exchange, 6:30 December 2 in Diehl Hall: One of our most popular fellowship activities. Bring a Christmas ornament (\$10 limit) to give/steal, and an appetizer or dessert, BYOB. Bring a friend!

Children's Party, December 4 after 11:00 worship: Children and Adults will color Christmas cards for people in the congregation, have a snack and game.

Conference Youth Caroling December 4: Youth from the ELCA churches in the Louisville area will gather at Christ Lutheran Church, 9212 Taylorsville Rd, Louisville, go Christmas caroling to members of their churches, then gather back at Christ for hot chocolate and fun. Meet at Christ Lutheran at 3:00. We will be finished there at 6:00.

Video Answer Deadline December 5: Please let us know by this date if you will be videoing your youth or child reading part of the Christmas Gospel lesson to be shown Christmas Eve this year.

Advent Worship: 6:30 December 7.

St. John Whole Congregation Christmas Caroling Dec. 11: Youth, children and adults, all ages are invited to go Christmas caroling to St. John folks who are shut in. Begin with a snack at 12:30 in Diehl Hall. Carpool and caroling till 3:00. Return to St. John for hot chocolate.

Video Submission Deadline Dec. 14: Please send your youth and children Christmas reading videos to Sherry Leister so she can edit them for Christmas Eve.

Advent Worship: 6:30 December 14.

Decorate Sanctuary Dec. 17: 10:00 Help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Should be finished by noon.

Christmas Choir Dec. 18 sings during worship.

Advent Worship: 6:30 December 21.

Christmas Eve Worship Dec. 24: 4:00, 6:00 outside, 7:30.

Christmas Sunday Worship Dec. 25: ONE SERVICE, 10:00 Lessons and Carols.



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



Financial Update

Monthly Financial Update

	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22
Income	\$24,378	\$20,650	\$23,680
Expense	\$17,912	\$39,690	\$18,052
Result	\$6,466	(\$19,040)	\$5,627

(Income less Expense)

Year to date result through October is -\$2,003.38. This is a significant reduction in the deficit we experienced in September. Again, giving typically increases during the holidays, so we are optimistic the year will end on a positive note. We do still owe more than half of our benevolence obligation, so that will be another end-of-year challenge. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christ Elbert or Diane Kushman if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you.



December Birthdays

Chloe Cox	12/01
Samantha Bright	12/04
Beth Coleman	12/04
Brenda Lind	12/04
Brent Florence	12/05
Brandon Lowen	12/05
Jeanette Gettelfinger	12/06
David Janes	12/06
Rosalie Wiebusch	12/06
Norah McCollum	12/07
John Gray	12/08
Holly Smith	12/08
Henry Huber, Jr.	12/09
Norma Gruen	12/10

Holly Perry	12/10
Pete Dallas	12/15
Michael Murray	12/15
Aasha Green-Kalyan	12/16
Doris Hukee	12/17
Thomas Reinking	12/17
Jennifer Blair	12/19
Alexander Burtnett	12/19
Matt Janes	12/19
Candice Hann	12/20
Dee Lynch	12/20
Sherrill Williams	12/21
Aaron Lind	12/22
Teresa Jones	12/23
Sarah Nehring	12/23
Mark Bartow	12/25
Philip Heslin	12/26
Allison Oost	12/26
Xander Florence	12/27
Alex Jackson	12/27
Bella O'Dell	12/28
Elijah O'Dell	12/28
Herb Reeser	12/28
Lindsay Romer	12/28
Jackson Eaton	12/29
Paula Eaton	12/29
Allison Greer	12/29
Destiny Nordstrom	12/29
Haley Tabler	12/29
Donna Gladstone	12/30
Savannah House	12/30



December Anniversaries

Russell & Dawn Perry	12/12
Bill & Gail Workman	12/16
Paul & Lisa Konar	12/19
Eric & Kim Hahn	12/21
Chet & Barbara Gentry	12/26
Bernard & Doris Hukee	12/26
Jerry & Rosalie Wiebusch	12/28

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
8:45am - Worship @ 10am - Christmas Choir 11am - Worship @ www. 12pm - Children's Party 3pm - Eben-Ezel 3pm - Youth Caroling 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 12:30pm - FS Dance 4pm - Book Club 4:30pm - OLOL 6pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Technology	9:30am - Bridge Club 12pm - Online Daily 3pm - FS Dance Class 4:30pm - OLOL 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7pm - Christmas Choir 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	Council Reports Due 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL 6pm - Executive	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL 5:30pm - Friends 6:30pm - Ornament	9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:45am - Worship @ 10am - Christmas Choir 11am - Worship @ www. 12:30pm - Caroling for 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 12:30pm - FS Dance 4pm - Book Club 4:30pm - OLOL 6pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Technology	9:30am - Bridge Club 12pm - Online Daily 3pm - FS Dance Class 4:30pm - OLOL 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7pm - Christmas Choir 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	Feast of the Immaculate 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL 6pm - Congregation	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:45am - Worship @ 10am - Christmas Choir 11am - Worship @ www. 12:30pm - Caroling for 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	Feast of Our Lady of 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 12:30pm - FS Dance 4pm - Book Club 4:30pm - OLOL	10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Online Daily 3pm - FS Dance Class 4:30pm - OLOL 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7pm - Christmas Choir	Journal Deadline 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL 6pm - Worship & Music	9am - Friends School 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	9am - SOKY Basketball 10am - Decorate 8pm - AA (ABC) @
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:45am - Worship @ 11am - Worship @ www. 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 12:30pm - FS Dance 4pm - Book Club 4:30pm - OLOL 6:30pm - Christian	10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Online Daily 3pm - FS Dance Class 4:30pm - OLOL 6:30pm - Advent Worship 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	Christmas Eve Christmas Eve 9am - SOKY Basketball 4pm - Worship 6pm - Worship (Outdoor) 7:30pm - Worship 8pm - AA (ABC) @
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day Christmas Day 10am - Worship-Lessons 12pm - Stephen Ministry 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19	Christmas Day Christmas Day Office Closed 12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 12:30pm - FS Dance 4pm - Book Club 4:30pm - OLOL	10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Online Daily 3pm - FS Dance Class 4:30pm - OLOL 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	12pm - Online Daily 4:30pm - OLOL	New Year's Eve 9am - SOKY Basketball 8pm - AA (ABC) @

DECEMBER 2022 WORSHIP TEAM

12/4

12/11

12/18

12/24

12/25

Assisting Minister (same person will serve at both services)

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

11:00

Lector

8:45	Rena B	Denise P	John T	4:00 John N	---
11:00	Rosie W	Sherley S	Connie S	7:30 Patti M	---

Cantor (same person will serve at both services)

	Laura R	Cindy L	Diane K	---	Laura M
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Usher

11:00	Ann H	Edie M	Sherley S	4:00 Sherley S & Haley	
				7:30 Ann H & Edie M	

Altar Guild

Dinah H, Brenda P

Communion Prep

8:45 & 11:00	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P	---
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Send a cheerful note to our members who are "under the weather" and/or can't make it to church services or church events.

John Gray
Vivian Lenberger
Betty Pauley
Otto Pollei
Nancy Robinson
Skip Stearman
Maxine Wines

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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DECEMBER 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

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