

ST. BARTHOLOMEW LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you in Christ our Savior, the newborn king!

We continue this month to consider the service of worship handed down to us by our faithful forefathers, and to discuss why we worship in such a way as we do. Last month we discussed the confession and absolution, and how the receiving of forgiveness is an important part of why we come together. This month, we'll look at how God's Word plays a central part as well.

You'll notice if you look at the service in your hymnal, the service is actually broken up into two big chunks. After the absolution, we enter into the first part of the "service proper," which is entitled "the service of the word." The service begins with an *introit*, a fancy word from Latin that simply means "entrance." Churches make use of this entrance in different ways. Traditionally, in the Christian church, this psalm would have been spoken or sung as the pastor(s) and acolyte(s) entered into the church from the narthex. At St. Bart's, I make a much smaller move during the introit. During the *Gloria Patri* (the part where we all say together, Glory be to the Father and...) I move from the lower level, the upper level of what we would call the Holy of Holies (or, the "front of the church," more on that later).

This use of the Psalm as a sort of entrance hymn into the church actually goes much farther back than the Christian church, and is one of those elements that Christians have inherited from Judaism. You'll notice when reading the psalms that there are 14 (120-134) entitled "Psalms of Ascent." These are psalms that were specifically set aside to be sung as Jews were walking up to Jerusalem to worship on the holy feast days, but also for the priests as they processed up into the temple to worship.

The entrance into the church has always been considered a holy occasion, which ought to be celebrated in a proper fashion. And, knowing no better way to sanctify our entrance into God's Holy House, we take to His word to prepare our minds and hearts to receive the holy gifts He has prepared for us at the altar, font, and lectern.

God's Peace be with you all!

Pastor Brandmahl

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

October 2023

Year-to-date Income:	\$145,467.21
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$144,886.56
Year-to-date Budget:	\$150,521.25

NEW MEMBERS

Steve & Barb Berger by transfer
Kathy Brown by transfer
Andy, Jordan, Lincoln Klessig by transfer

BAPTISM

Eleanorah Joanna Wendling 12/3

KINGDOM WORKERS - JANUARY

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for January in the following areas:

Altar Guild

Jan. 3 & 7: Nancy Davidson, Ashley Brandmahl
Jan. 10 & 14: Linda Breitzmen, Connie Koerth
Jan. 17 & 21: Norma Drumm, Lori Fels
Jan. 24 & 28: Renee Bonick, Sue Juno
Jan. 31 & Feb. 4: Janet Kalies, Sue Graf

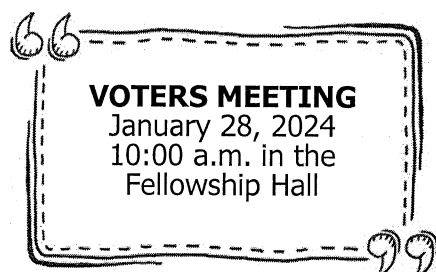
Ushers: Wednesdays: Kelly Behnke
Sundays: Bob Behnke, Simon Geiger

Acolyte

January 7: Ashlynn
January 14: James
January 21: Braxton
January 28: Harper

Worship Assistants

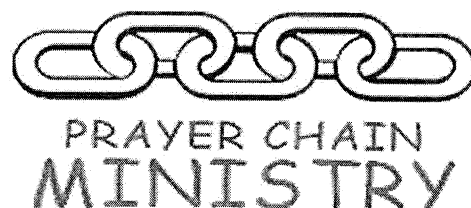
<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>Sundays</i>
Jan. 3: Gary L.	Jan. 7: Dave
Jan. 10: Rick	Jan. 14: Craig
Jan. 17: Bob	Jan. 21: Tanner
Jan. 24: Jeff	Jan. 28: Lon
Jan. 31: Gary K.	



Prayer Chain

A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	920-756-2696
Renee Bonick	920-296-9164
Sue Detert	920-756-3439
Lori Fels	920-639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	920-371-7375
Sandy Haberland	920-524-2016
Kris Krueger	920-871-4039
Faith Sonnabend	920-756-2779
Diane Zickert	920-841-8951



"This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us" (1 John 5:14)

ELDER GROUPS

(A-G) Tanner Behnke	920-427-6201
(H-M) Lon Fels	920-655-8585
(N-Z) Jeff Schlender	920-588-7772

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others
(Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45; Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

SHARING, BELIEVING LIVING AND CARING



THANK YOU to everyone who so generously baked and donated cookies for our Christmas Cookie Sale. Your help was greatly appreciated, and we couldn't have done it without you. *Ladies Aid*

CHURCH CLOSINGS

Before you know it, winter will be upon us. We ask that you let us know your email address if you want to be notified of any church closings this winter season due to inclement weather. Thank you. You can also check our church FaceBook page, tune into radio station Y100 100.3 FM or turn your TV to WBAY Channel 2 for any worship service cancellation.



Women's Bathroom Renovation

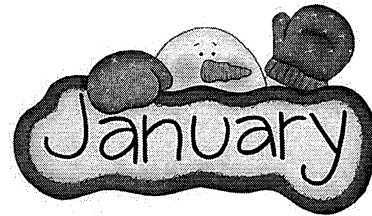
The renovation of the women's bathroom will begin in February. There was a delay due to a backorder on the sinks and vanity. The project is expected to last approximately one month. During this time ladies are asked to use the restroom in the fellowship hall.

St. Bartholomew has several special project/memorial funds set up to contribute toward.

These funds include: Landscaping
Hearing Loop
Concordia Scholarship Fund
Improvement Fund
Decorating
Banners



If you would like to contribute to any of the above funds please place your contribution in an envelope and mark it with your name and envelope number as well as the name of the fund you want the contribution assigned to. You may also use the specially marked envelopes in the literature rack.



BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Becky Krahn	21 st	Jeff Schlender
4 th	Julie Boldt	24 th	Renee Bonick
4 th	Amber Lau	24 th	Nicole Gifford
4 th	Dante Gifford	24 th	Randy Rahn
5 th	Nathan Delvaux	26 th	Nicole Koerth
8 th	Brian Krahn	28 th	Alan Klepps
13 th	Janet Kalies	29 th	Ashley Bowe
16 th	Caleb Delvaux	31 st	Bill Drumm
17 th	Diane Buboltz	31 st	Chris Levash
18 th	Mattea Schlender	31 st	Hadley Boldt

ANNIVERSARIES

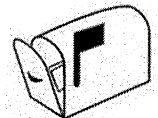
3rd Craig & Jamie Moline



Please forgive us & politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. Thank you.

Address, Phone, or Email Changes?

We will be updating our church directory soon and need any changes you may have had recently in your address, phone, or email.



NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE

You may update these changes by emailing the church office at sblcofice105@gmail.com.

PAVERS

If you would like to place a paver in our Memorial Garden, pick up a form in the church office or literature rack. Cost is \$40 each.

You can purchase a paver in memory of or in honor of someone or some event.

We only place one order during the year so be sure to order now. Deadline for 2024 orders is April 21.

The difference of a dollar

As we all aware, inflation has affected all of us and our Church in no exception. While we carefully approved our budget and kept our spending under control, we have been seeing a trend since August of 2023 in a decrease in our weekly offerings. To avoid falling into further financial deficits, we ask that you prayerfully consider this chart and see that even a small amount can result in a generous offering for our church:

\$1 per week X 52 church services =\$52
\$2 per week X 52 church services=\$104
\$3 per week X 52 church services=\$156
\$4 per week X 52 church services=\$208
\$5 per week X 52 church services=\$260
\$10 per week X 52 church services=\$520
\$15 per week X 52 church services=\$780
\$20 per week X 52 church services=\$1040

Remember, we should want to give to God what he has given us.

Church Undecorating

On Saturday January 6 at 9:00 a.m. we will be taking down the Christmas trees and indoor church decorations.

On Saturday January 13 at 9:00 a.m. we will be taking down the outdoor nativity display.

We would appreciate any help you can offer.
Thank you!

New Offering Envelopes

If you didn't receive a box of offering envelopes for 2024 and need one, please contact the church office.

2023 GIVING RECORDS

If we have an email address for you, you will receive your 2023 Giving record electronically. If you need a hard copy, please contact the church office. For those of you we do not have email addresses, you will receive your giving record in your church mailbox by the first week of January.

ADULT INFORMATION CLASS

If anyone is interested in joining our congregation from a non-Lutheran background or is interested in learning the basics of our beliefs as Lutherans, contact Pastor Brandmahl (920-756-3031) so a class can be set up beginning in February.

NOVEMBER SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	160	2.72
BP	800	12.00
Cobblestone	75	3.75
Culver's	50	2.50
Dairy Queen	95	19.00
Econo	2,150	64.50
Exxon	100	5.00
Festival	300	9.00
Fleet Farm	200	10.00
Kwik Trip	1,200	48.00
McDonalds	50	2.00
Menards	50	1.50
Piggly Wiggly	300	9.00
Subway	25	2.50
Target	100	2.50
WalMart	1,500	37.50
TOTALS	7,155	231.47