

*St. John (Bingen)
Lutheran Church*

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NEWSLETTER



December 2018/January 2019

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXI – Number 10

December 2018/January 2019

Dear Friends in Christ,

Warm greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, and Prince of Peace!

This December-January issue of the St. John, Bingen newsletter covers the "**Time of Christmas**," a period in the Church Year that is subdivided into three very important seasons:

- 1) **Advent** - a time of subdued praise in repentant preparation for celebrating the incarnation of our Savior as well as His imminent Final Advent. (Please note that a special introduction and explanation of Advent and Christmas worship has been included in the following pages of this newsletter)
- 2) **Christmas** - a joyous time celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ who took on flesh to suffer death for our salvation
- 3) **Epiphany** - meaning "to shine upon" or "to make manifest," during which season we observe the glory of God manifested in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Although each season is unique, the focus remains the same: "that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 **Timothy 1:15**).

For many of us, this "**Time of Christmas**" will be filled with beloved traditions, family events, and joyful homecomings. For some of us, this time will also be filled with a sense of loss and longing - either because our holiday joy is restrained by anxiety, personal struggles, or family difficulties or because we must journey through this festive time without the company of a loved one who now rests in Jesus' saving arms. Whether your joys in the coming months are terrific or tempered, sublime or subdued, please make sure that your "**Time of Christmas**" is, above all, filled with the gifts of your Savior, Jesus Christ - gifts that bring comfort to troubled hearts, joy and gladness to souls that mourn, and an unending peace that comes from above.

In the Word of God read and proclaimed, in His very body and blood, and in the company of your fellow saints at St. John, Bingen, Christ comes to be your Immanuel, to be God with you and God for you. Here, in your church, you will be filled with the peace and the joy that only Christ can provide. Here you will find the most precious Christmas present of all, wrapped in bread and wine, that will be for your soul the highest good. Here you will join with your family and friends and all the company of heaven to laud and magnify the glorious, saving name of the Christ-child born in Bethlehem.

My prayer for you throughout this "**Time of Christmas**" is that your traditions, your family events, and all your celebrations be seasoned and inspired by one focus and message: "that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." May your Advent worship prepare you for the coming Savior; may your Christmas worship fill you with the peace and joy that Jesus was born to bring; may your Epiphany worship cause the glory of God in Christ to shine upon you through Word and Sacrament.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Dear friends, receive your King.

In Christ, *Pastor*

Advent - An Introduction...

Advent is a penitential season of repentant preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas and for His final Advent on the Last Day. Like cleaning the house before a birthday party or any other festive celebration, the season of Advent prepares us to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The word "advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "appearing" or "coming." Throughout the season of Advent, we recognize three ways in which Christ comes to us.

First, the eternal Son of God came to us in time and space when He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Of Christ's wonderfully mysterious incarnation, the apostle Paul writes, "When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (**Galatians 4:4-5**). That is, the sinless Son of God became man, that through His perfect life, death, and resurrection, of which we are made participants in Holy Baptism, we might become the children of God. Advent prepares us to celebrate this glorious event in salvation history.

Second, the eternal Son of God comes to us through His Word and Sacraments. Just as every Sunday is a "little Easter," celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, so do we rejoice that every Sunday, Christ "advents" Himself among us in the proclamation of His holy Word and in His true body and blood, given us Christians to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. Advent is also a time to be reminded of this saving truth, and to prepare to meet our Savior in the breaking of the bread.

Third, the eternal Son of God is coming again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. In this sense, Advent carries on the theme that was emphasized toward the end of the Church Year. As we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ in the flesh on that first Christmas, so do we prepare for the coming of Christ in the flesh on the Last Day. For those washed in the blood of the Lamb who was slain, this return of Christ in judgment is something we eagerly welcome and await.

Concerning the coming of Christ, St. Bernard wrote: "In the first coming, Christ comes in the flesh and in weakness; in the second, He comes in Spirit and power; in the third, He comes in glory and majesty; and the second coming is the means whereby we pass from the first to the third." What a privilege it is this Advent season to celebrate Christ's first coming and look forward to His final return by coming together in God's house where Christ comes even now to serve us with the gifts of His cross!

+ + +

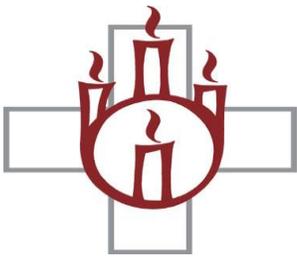
Advent at St. John + Bingen

December 2, 2018 is the First Sunday in Advent and thus the beginning of our penitential preparation at St. John as a gathered people of God. As in years past, you will notice that Divine Service, Setting IV is used throughout Advent (as in Lent - another penitential season of preparation). Because this time of repentant preparation is marked by subdued praise, it is appropriate to use this Divine Service setting wherein the majority of the liturgy is spoken rather than sung. You will also notice that the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted throughout Advent, again restraining our praise in anticipation of Christmas Eve when the song of the angels will ring out loud and long. Our worship is also blessed to include Morning Prayer, a Prayer Office especially appropriate for Advent with its inclusion of the Benedictus, the Song of Zechariah. (See **Luke 1:57-80**)

This year, our Advent Midweek Evening Prayer Services will follow the theme "**Songs of Christmas.**" Each Wednesday in Advent, we will gather in God's house to hear one of the songs sung in anticipation or celebration of the conception and birth of Christ. Luke's Gospel, the hymnic narrative of Christ's nativity, proclaims these songs, all of which have found a place in the historic liturgy of the church. Mary's Song (The Magnificat) is first, sung by Mary when she visited Elizabeth. The following week we will hear and sing Zechariah's Song (The Benedictus), a prophesy sung in response to the birth of John the Baptist, the foreunner of Christ. At the third midweek service, we will hear and sing the song of the angels (The Gloria in Excelsis), first sung to the shepherds on that most holy night when Christ was born. By giving us voices to sing the songs of Christmas throughout Advent, the Lord prepares us to celebrate the first coming of Jesus as a babe in Bethlehem, to receive Him as He comes to us now through Word and Sacrament, and to look forward with joyful hope when He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

As in previous years, each Advent Midweek Evening Prayer Service will begin with a hymn-sing at 6:45pm. Those who attend will be invited to volunteer their favorite hymns which we will then sing together. (This is a good opportunity for anyone who laments that there is not more time in the Christmas season for singing our favorite Christmas carols/hymns). The Readings, Office Hymn, and Sermon, then, will focus on the "Song of Christmas" for that Midweek Service. The Midweek Services will also include special music by the Handbell Choir, Wyneken Choir, and Adult Choir. An abbreviated Service of the Sacrament will be offered following each Midweek Evening Prayer Service.

May this Season of Advent be a blessing to you and your salvation, as together we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior and to welcome Him as our King!



+ + +

"The Time of Christmas"

Worship at St. John + Bingen

Four Sundays in Advent

1st Sunday in Advent – December 2, 2018

"The King Who Comes"

Luke 19:28-40

2nd Sunday in Advent - December 9, 2018

"The Way of the Lord"

Luke 3:1-14

3rd Sunday in Advent - December 16, 2018

"Are You the One?"

Luke 7:18-28

4th Sunday in Advent - December 23, 2018

"The Visitation"

Luke 1:39-56

Advent Midweek* - The Songs of Christmas

Advent Midweek 1 - Wednesday, December 5

"The Magnificat" (The Song of Mary)

Special Music: St. John Choir

Advent Midweek 2 - Wednesday, December 12

"The Benedictus" (The Song of Zechariah)

Special Music: Wyneken Choir

Advent Midweek 3 - Wednesday, December 19

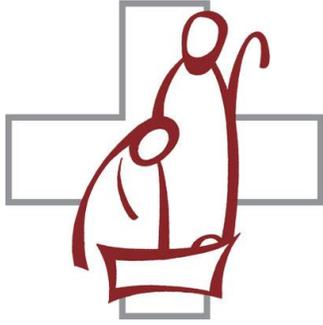
"The Gloria in Excelsis" (The Song of the Angels)

Special Music: St. John Handbells

*6:45pm - Congregational Hymn-Sing

7pm - Advent Evening Prayer

(An abbreviated Service of the Sacrament will be offered following the Evening Prayer Office)



Christmas Eve + Monday, December 24, 2018

7 p.m. - Children's Christmas Eve Service
11 p.m. - Candlelight Divine Service

Christmas Day + Tuesday, December 25, 2018

9 a.m. - Christmas Day Divine Service with Readings and Carols

1st Sunday after Christmas + Sunday, December 30, 2018

8 a.m. - Divine Service with Readings and Carols
10:30 a.m. - Divine Service with Readings and Carols
(*No Sunday School or Bible Class*)

New Year's Eve + Monday, December 31, 2018

+ *Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus* +

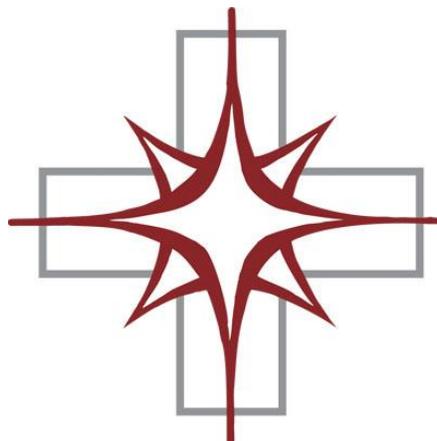
7 p.m. - Divine Service

The Epiphany of Our Lord + Sunday, January 6, 2019

8 a.m. - Divine Service
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 a.m. - Divine Service
(*Church Council Installation at 10:30 a.m. Divine Service*)

The Baptism of Our Lord + Sunday, January 13, 2019

8 a.m. - Divine Service
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 a.m. - Matins Office



Christian Stewardship

Throughout his epistles and his preaching recorded in the Book of Acts, St. Paul refers, in one way or another, to thanksgiving and thankfulness nearly 50 times. Whether vertically toward God, or horizontally toward the neighbor, thanksgiving is a major theme within St. Paul's body of work.

What does this mean? It means thankfulness is intrinsic to the life of those baptized into Christ. In other words, giving thanks is what Christians do as they live out their lives in this world.

The problem is that we often forget this. Consider your average, run-of-the-mill, normal day. When you get home, and your parents, your spouse or your children ask about your day, what first comes to your mind? After 99 percent of things went right, went exactly as planned, were enjoyable and blessings, we tend to focus on and remember the 1 percent of things that went poorly, that didn't go as planned, and that were nuisances.

We remember the bad things. We focus on discontent. And we fail to give thanks in all circumstances for everything (Eph. 5:20) and to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4).

Thankfulness and contentment go together. We are content with things for which we are thankful. St. Paul could be content with having plenty or when in need because He gave thanks to the Lord for all things. He thanked the Lord for those who had prayed for him and listened to his proclamation of the Gospel. He gave thanks for their good works in and for the Church of Christ. He gave thanks for the grace of God in Christ Jesus and found that God's grace was sufficient for him.

So, give thanks for all things and in all circumstances dear brothers and sisters in Christ. For you have been saved from sin, death, and hell by the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. You have been added to the very family of God in an adoption of grace through Holy Baptism. God is your Father. Our Lord, Jesus Christ is your brother.

But He not only provides for your spiritual well-being, He cares also for this body and life. Your Father in heaven provides food and clothes, house and home, husband, wife, and children. He gives you reason and all your senses. He has given you the raw talents that you have developed into careers. Everything you are and everything that you have is a gift from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in you.

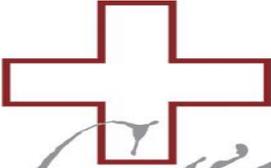
Give thanks for these things. Make a list – every morning if you must. Say them out loud. Sing about them within the congregation of the saints. And remember this: God has given you these things so that you may be of service to those around you – your family, your neighbors, your brothers and sisters in Christ. For to whom much is given; much shall be required (Luke 12:48).

Special Collections: St John Family Assistance – 12/24 Candlelight and 12/25 Christmas Day

Concordia Theological Seminary – 1/6/19*

Decatur Area Lutherans for Life – 1/21/19* (Door offering)

*Pending Voter Approval



Deo Gratias
THANKS BE TO GOD

A.D. 2020 – 175th Anniversary of St. John, Bingen

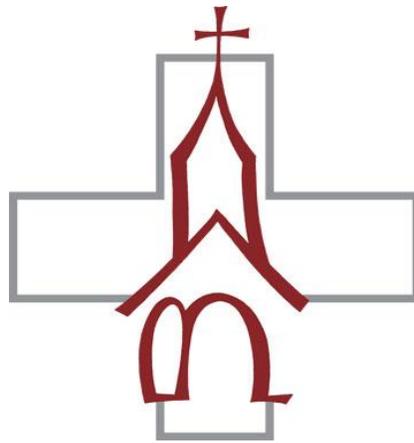
+ *One LORD, One Faith, One Future* +

In thanksgiving for 175 years of God's grace at Bingen, we have designated a 175th Anniversary Mission Offering with the goal of raising \$175,000 by December 26, 2020 to support the church's mission and mercy work in Tanzania, Africa and for international students studying at Concordia Theological Seminary. Members and friends of St. John, both past and present, are invited to show forth their thankfulness to the Lord by supporting this special mission project from now through 2020. Further information and forms for "purchasing" a "brick" for the church model are available in the entry of the church.

The 175th Committee has set up an historic display in the Parish Hall. The two cases of historic items are updated monthly, with one case filled with new items and the second case containing the items from the previous month. If you have any historic, Bingen-related items of interest (such as pictures, documents, or artifacts) that you would like to loan for the display, please contact committee chairman Lynn Selking or archivist Linda Abdon. All items are kept in a locked display case and returned when the display is changed. Please be sure to give Lynn or Linda your contact information along with a description of the item you are loaning, so we may be sure to return it to you.

Historic notes from congregational minutes:

December 2, 1878	Resolved that chewing tobacco and spitting in the new church be absolutely forbidden.
December 2, 1878	Resolved that anyone whittling on the pews be obliged to repair the damage.
March 7, 1880	Resolved to build a fence around the church to keep cattle off the ground.



The Council and Staff at St. John wish all of you a joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year! We also extend a sincere thank you to all the current and outgoing church officers and special committee members for their time and efforts this past year. It takes many countless hours to make everything run smoothly, continue to function and looking great! God bless the talents you share here at St. John. And lastly, thanks to all of you not named above who just take care of the little things when they are noticed, to those who come and help when asked and to those who tend to the repairs and fine tuning as you see fit. We appreciate you! Blessings to all in 2019!

December and January Youth Events

Middle School Youth

Sunday, December 16, 12noon-4 p.m. – Crafts and Caroling

We will gather in the Bingen Parish Hall for lunch and Christmas crafts before traveling to a couple nursing homes for caroling and distributing the Christmas crafts.

High School Youth Activities

December 2; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Wyneken Volunteer Service and Games

December 9; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Movie Night at Caston Home

Chris and Tina Caston will host a movie night at their home (1988 E. 900 N.; Decatur, IN 46733). Come and enjoy their incredible home theater! Popcorn provided. Butter if you wish.

December 16, 12noon-4 p.m. – Crafts and Caroling

We will gather in the Bingen Parish Hall for lunch and Christmas crafts before traveling to a couple nursing homes for caroling and distributing the Christmas crafts.

December 23 & 30; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Youth Gathering at Parsonage 1

Notes from LWML

The LWML Mite box will be available after church services on the 4th Sunday of each month. Your contribution of pennies and small change is support of mission and ministry throughout the world.

Save your cancelled stamps. Holidays will bring you an excess. Please trim stamps leaving ¼ inch margin. The collection box is on shelf across from the Family Resource Center and Nursery.

SAVE the dates:

March 23, 2019 Saturday LWML Prayer Service – Zion, Decatur

March 29-30, 2019 INDIANA DISTRICT LWML RETREAT

“Sisters in Christ – Chosen to Care” Colossians 3:12

Retreat Speaker: Katie Schuermann, author of House of Living Stones, The Choir Immortal, and has a new book coming out soon. She has also written a Bible study about Pew Sisters! This retreat will be held in Plainfield, Indiana, which is 149 miles south from Decatur and a 2 hour 21 minute drive. Registration information coming soon!

June 20 – 23, 2019 38th Biennial National LWML Convention – Mobile, Alabama

Delegate Rotation: Zion-Friedheim

Theme: “In Praise to the Lord!”

Scripture Verse: Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare His glory among the nations! 1 Chronicles 16: 23-24a

An Indiana bus will be departing from Greenfield, Indiana, at 6 A.M. (by reservation)

Detailed information will be forthcoming.

September 8, 2019 Sunday LWML SRD Workshop – New Hope, Ossian

October 13, 2019 Sunday LLL/LWML Fall Rally – Peace, Berne

Voters' Meeting – Tuesday, December 4th at 8 p.m. Agenda: Election of Officers and 2019 Budget

Snow Removal for Church Grounds– Those willing to help please contact Jon Zwick (text or call) 260-301-6166.

Ladies Guild Christmas Party- Tuesday, December 11th, 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. RSVP to Glenna Rhymer (547-4712), Shirley Mailand (639-3931) or Teegen Brock (301-1606) by December 3rd. Cost \$10

Ladies Aid Christmas Party – Wednesday, December 12th, 11:30 a.m. at Richard's Restaurant in Decatur.

Children's Christmas Eve Service- All children of St. John, Bingen ages 3 through 8th grade are encouraged to participate in the Children's Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. on December 24th. Rehearsals for this service began November 25th during the Sunday School hour. We will rehearse every Sunday morning during Sunday School until December 23rd. Please join us we share the gifts of the Lord through word and song.

Wyneken's Craft Show – Saturday, December 1st, from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Over 60 vendors, Cookie Corner, and Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Scrap Metal Drive for Wyneken's 2020 Class - Do you have any type of metal lying around and need to get rid of it? Like aluminum, brass, copper, stainless steel, wrought iron or old appliances, leftover building material, strands of burnt-out Christmas lights, farm equipment, cars, and tin roofing. Wyneken Class of 2020 has continued an open account at OmniSource on 1430 Meyer Rd (in between New Haven and Ft. Wayne) to allow for donations. It's easy, take your scrap metal in and tell them that you would like to donate it to the Wyneken Class of 2020. Can't get it there or don't have a truck large enough for old pieces or farm implements, we will come get it. To allow for scheduling purposes, please call or email Mark/Holly Laurent at 447-8872 or hlaurent2002@gmail.com. Please call by December 6th to allow for pick-up on December 8th.

Cookbook Pasting Party ☺ We will be pasting corrections to the cookbook on Tuesday, December 4th at **2 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Please note the time change.

Cookbooks for Sale– These are available for purchase between services until December 16th. Cost: \$10 each or 2 for \$15

Concordia High School Christmas at the Embassy Concert-

'Savior of the Nations, Come' - Sunday, December 16th at 4 p.m. This celebration of our Savior's birth has become Concordia's annual gift to our community. Please join with Concordia students and staff as well as students of other area Lutheran schools as we share His Gift with others. You may purchase tickets at the Embassy Box Office or www.ticketmaster.com. Cost \$15 adults, \$8 students/seniors- 60 or older.

Serve Our Servants "S.O.S" – Saturday, December 8th at the Acme Bar & Grill, 1105 E. State Blvd., 2-6 p.m. Join the Biblical counseling ministry of Cross Connections for our annual S.O.S. Event! Enjoy and All-You-Can-Eat pizza, wings, salad and dessert buffet for \$20/person. A percentage of the proceeds from this event will go directly towards providing FREE biblical counseling for all active duty military, police, fire and EMT personnel referred to Cross Connections by our 91 ministry partners. FOOD. FRIENDS. FOOTBALL. These brave men and women willingly risk their lives daily for our freedoms and safety so they deserve our support! SERVE OUR SERVANTS! As an added bonus, the festivities will take place during the Army-Navy football game. All former and current military personnel are encouraged to attend and take part in the friendly rivalry that exists between the two branches of our armed forces.

Hoagland 2nd Annual Christmas Parade – Saturday, December 8th

6:00 p.m.– Second Annual Hoagland Christmas Parade – Awesome Decorated Christmas-Lighted Vehicles.

“If you can put Christmas lights on it, you can enter it in the Parade”

6:55 p.m. - Parade Finishes Downtown

7:00 p.m. - Music, Bonfire, Chili, Cookies and Hot Chocolate

7:30 p.m. - Welcome and Lighting of the Downtown Christmas Tree

7:35 p.m. - Christmas Carols on Main Street- Everyone is welcome to join in.

Admission and Refreshments are Free....But please bring a Non-Perishable Food Item or Monetary Gift for the St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Food Pantry and your singing voice. Sponsored by the Hoagland Chamber of Commerce, Area Businesses and Individuals.

Friday, December 14th – Grab your partner & promenade over to a Square Dance at **The Hoagland Hayloft** featuring Bill Werling & Breakaway. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., Dancing from 8-11:30 p.m. Admission: \$10/person. Proceeds benefit: St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School.

SAVE THE DATE & COME CELEBRATE

*Wyneken's 50th
Anniversary Gala
and
Silent Auction*

SATURDAY, MARCH 2nd @ 6:00 PM

ORCHARD RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB

4531 Lower Huntington Rd., Fort Wayne

SPECIAL GUEST ALUMNI SPEAKER

SAM CONRAD (CLASS OF 1997)

TICKETS \$50 PER PERSON BY JAN. 1ST

\$60 PER PERSON AFTER JAN. 1ST

INCLUDES DINNER, DANCING, & UNLTD. BEER & WINE (6-10P)

RSVP BY FEBRUARY 1ST TICKETS ARE LIMITED

CONTACT MAY HOLT FOR TICKETS & INFO: (760)696-0095

FOR DONATIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

KARI BUTCHER 260-223-2277 OR KROSE272@GMAIL.COM

ERIN HULL 260-580-2709 OR ERINHULL@OUTLOOK.COM

PORTION OF PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS

UPDATING WYNEKEN'S PLAYGROUND

Dear Friends,

We would appreciate your support and partnership with us as we hold our "50th Anniversary Gala & Silent Auction." This special event helps reduce the number of smaller fundraisers our school does while helping to benefit our students, teachers, and staff through the dollars raised. Portion of the proceeds from this event will be used to help update and improve the school's playground. We are seeking donations for the silent auction as well as sponsorships. Your donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. Wyneken's tax exempt number is 35-1161570.

All donors will be featured in our event program!

Sponsorship levels include the following:

Platinum: \$1000+ level sponsorship receives whole table/8 seats, announced throughout the evening at the event.

Gold: \$500 level sponsorship receives 4 seats at a table, announced throughout the evening at the event.

Silver: \$250 level sponsorship receives 2 seats at a table.

You may also donate any amount if unable to come to the Gala or do not wish to be a sponsor.

Thank-you for taking the time to consider supporting our students, teachers and staff through your attendance at the event and/or your tax deductible contribution.

To ensure your information is featured in the event program, please send a business card or logo with your donation. All contributions for this event need to be received by January 31, 2019 and may be sent to **Attention: Gala- Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School**, 11565 North US 27, Decatur, IN 46733. Please make checks payable to **Wyneken PTL** and send with RSVP card. If you wish to remain anonymous please notate that with your donation. For more information, please contact Kari Butcher (260-223-2277 or krose272@gmail.com) or Erin Hull (260-580-2709 or erinhull@outlook.com).

Sincerely,

Wyneken PTL

December Baptismal Birthdays

Penny Albersmeyer	David Emblar	Jamison Hyde	Marlene Schieferstein
Dustin Anderson	Kane Ferrell	Melvin Kleine	Shelby Schieferstein
Jenny Beaulieu	Timothy Fuhrmann	June Krauss	Andrew Schwartz
Dean Berning	Andrew Gavrun	Michael Krey	Amanda Selking
Eugene Berning	Khloe Goble	Fred Kunkel	Emily Selking
Aric Bradtmueller	Cheryl Grant	Wendy Mahlan	Kyle Selking
Kevin Brown	Don Gresley	Pastor Maronde	Willis Smith
Kyle Brown	Theodore Grillot	Carson McBride	David Smock
Jessi Bruns	Kennedy Groce	Grant McBride	Arianna Snyder
Lou Ann Bultemeyer	Savanah Handshoe	Todd McBride	Eric Stockman
Sarah Butler	Angela Hardesty	Garry Murdock Jr.	Elley Tedeschi
Kenneth Buuck	Brian Hartman	Debra Murdock	Hannah Tedeschi
Carson Canales	Kendra Heckman	Glendolyn Rhymer	Tegan Votaw
Drexel Canales	Joshua Hershberger	Jamie Salima	Louis Welch
Stephanie Canales	Job Hoffman	Easton Sauer	Colton Witte
Isaac Caston	Steven Holle	Taylor Sauer	Harrison Yoquelet
Troy Christman	Margaret Holley	Donna Scheiman	Turner Yoquelet
Rhonda Conrad	Kristin Holt	Dale Scherer	
Glenys Counterman	Jeffrey Holtzclaw Jr.	Emily Scheumann	
Janet Curtis	Corbin Howard	Melinda Scheumann	

January Baptismal Birthdays

Bill Anderson	Theodore Gilreath	Roger Koenemann	Madeleine Plumley
Lucas Anderson	Cadence Groce	Patricia Krauss	Carly Radecki
Jaxson Augustyniak	Jason Groce	Kathleen Krey	Jon Reese
Joshua Augustyniak	Janice Grover	Logan Lepper	Ritch Reynolds
Kathryn Bender	Madeline Hartman	Ruth Linnemeier	Delbert Scheiman
Don Bixler	Kayla Hershberger	Katie Mahlan	Andrew Scheumann
Tyrone Boenker	Mitchell Hicks	Rachel McBride	Paul Scheumann
Kevin Bradtmueller	Florence Hoffman	David Melcher	Emily Schwartz
Pastor Brock	Steve Jacobs	Louise Melcher	Paul Schwartz
Jack Clear	Molly Johnson	Joy Meyer	Heath Selking
Larry Eckerley	Brooke Kleine	Claire Nelson	Lincoln Selking
Alexander Flower	Delin Kleine	Alan Oetting	Owen Strahm
Jacob Flower	Ryan Kleine	Jennifer M. Oetting	Tonda Witte
Danielle Fuhrman	Alvera Knipstein	Miranda Peconge	William Yunk
Gerald Fuhrmann	Fay Koenemann	Nicole Plas	Eileen Zwick

December and January - Wedding Anniversaries

12/2	Tyler & Sadie Freeman	12/31	James & Erin Hull
12/2	William & Eileen Zwick	1/2	Corey & Kathryn Bender
12/6	David & Lynnda Wilson	1/9	Adam & Tiffany Hoffman
12/12	Luke & Taylor Lepper	1/15	Bryan & Jennifer Oetting
12/14	Jon & Danielle Fuhrman	1/21	David & Melanie Scheumann
12/28	Robert & Ann Thorn	1/30	Phillip & Evie DeBolt

Minutes of St. John Lutheran Church + Bingen Voters Assembly Meeting

Date and Time: October 30, 2018, 8:00 p.m.

Called to Order by: Chairman Randy Lepper

Devotions: Pastor Peter Brock opened with the Early Evening Daily Prayers from page 297 of the LSB. Hymn 845 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" was sung. A prayer followed.

Recording Secretary's Report:

The July 9, 2018 Voters Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Witte presented the Income Statement for the nine months ending September 30, 2018 (attached). Contributions to Salaries and Maintenance were \$376,340.54. With expenses of \$455,158.59, the year to date deficit is \$78,758.52. Actual expenses are 7.7% under budgeted expenses (\$35,077.00). The current deficit is under the previous three year's deficit at this point in time. The previous year's deficits were \$128,804.00, \$118,545.00 and \$122,029.00 for 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. St. Paul – Preble and Zion – Friedheim will be invoiced for their share of the Vacation Bible School expenses. This will be approximately \$2,700.00. Jay commented that E-giving year to date is \$3,382.18.

M/S/C To accept the Treasurer's report as presented

Financial Secretary's Report: Delin Kleine presented his report for the 3rd Quarter ending September 30, 2018 (attached). Delin reviewed the numbers in his report and commented that contributions to the Salaries and Maintenance fund in 2018 are above the amounts contributed in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

M/S/C To accept the Financial Secretary's report as presented.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brock presented the membership changes since our last meeting (attached).

There was one Baptism – Delilah Kae Lynn Baumgartner on August 5, 2018.

There were five Confirmations – Rachel Ann Baumgartner, Justin Fredrick Baumgartner, Taffie Jean Hosler and Justin Derek Hosler on October 14, 2018 and Cayla Rachelle Grover on October 28, 2018.

M/S/C To transfer in Rev. Christopher Maronde, spouse Bethany and children Samantha and Rachel from Good Shepherd Lutheran, Lincoln, NE

M/S/C To grant an associate membership to Seminarian Chase Lefort

There was one marriage – Christopher Johnson and Heather Arnold on October 13, 2018.

There were two affirmation of marriages – Casey and Maybelle Holt on September 8, 2018 and Rachel and Justin Baumgartner on October 20, 2018.

Two members were transferred to their eternal glory – Lorine Counterman on September 5, 2018 and Jean Lepper on September 30, 2018.

M/S/C To transfer Brian and Angela Horning to Zion Lutheran, Petoskey, MI

M/S/C To transfer Jason Bultemeyer, spouse Brittany and child Elijah to Suburban Bethlehem, Ft Wayne, IN

As of September 30, 2018 there were 893 souls and 694 communicants.

Pastor reported that the Youth group had several events in August, September and October. They have used Parsonage I for some of the events. The High School Youth have completed several service projects at Wyneken. Roger and Lisa Hormann, along with Chris and Tina Caston, have been very helpful with these events.

Pastor noted that he will be teaching in Tanzania, Africa from November 1, 2018 through November 20, 2018. Seminarian Josef Muench will be preaching on November 4, 2018. Pastor Maronde will handle all of the services, including the Wednesday nights, along with preaching on November 11 and November 18, 2018.

Pastor announced that he has suspended his participation in the PhD program at the seminary due to time commitments.

Randy Lepper reported that a meeting was held with the Pastors and other leaders of St. John – Bingen, St. Paul –Preble and Zion – Friedheim to discuss the joint Youth program. It was decided to establish a steering committee consisting of the three Pastors and 2 other members from each congregation. The members from St. John – Bingen are Pastor Brock, Kevin Selking and Holly Laurent. Kevin Selking reported that the committee has met once. The committee hopes to have a recommendation by January 2019.

Pastor reported that due to safety concerns raised at the July 9, 2018 Voter's meeting; all Youth activities in the Parish Hall basement have been suspended. Pastor Brock worked with an architect, design builder and general contractor and have a quote for \$40,000.00 to \$45,000.00 to bring the basement up to code. This would include \$10,000.00 to modify the current access to the basement and \$30,000.00 to \$35,000.00 to install a new access on the other side of the Parish Hall. The Youth want a designated place to gather. Discussion and questions followed. The Council has asked for advice the past 3 months regarding the direction of the Youth program.

M/S/C To allow the Youth to utilize Parsonage I for their meeting space

Elders' Report: Kevin Selking reported that the past and present Elders are helping with the Wednesday night services.

Trustees' Report: Jim Butler reported that there are 3 trees in the cemetery that need to be removed.

Jim noted that a handrail will be installed by the 3 steps leading to the Church secretary's office.

Jim stated that he has 2 quotes to repair the air conditioning units and repair the heating boilers. One is for \$19,390.00 and the other is for \$21,595.00. Jim also has a quote for \$21,603.00 to repair the air conditioning units, repair the heating boilers and install two furnaces upstairs by the air handling units. Jay Witte suggested that these items be put in the budget for 2019.

M/S/C To allocate up to \$22,000.000 in the 2019 budget for upgrades to the air conditioning and heating (HVAC) in the Church

Jim reported that he has several quotes for the repairs needed at Parsonage I. They are \$6,600.00 for a new HVAC unit, \$2,050.00 for carpet, \$700.00 for a new front door and \$900.00 for a refrigerator. Furthermore, it will probably require \$25,000.00 over the next 10 years to keep the house in good condition.

Deacons' Report:

No Report

Wyneken School Board: Chris Caston reported that the LED lighting conversion is 100% complete at the school. The board is also addressing several security concerns.

St. John's Board of Education:

No Report

Board of Stewardship: Kenton Kleine stated that there was a communication mix-up and the Stewardship Board was not asking the Ladies Guild to sponsor part of Pastor Maronde's salary.

Jay Witte reported that October was the annual Stewardship month. Currently there are 15 families using the E-giving program.

The Planning Board:

No Report

Board of Evangelism:

No Report

Wills Committee:

No Report

Committee for Management and Care of the Farmland in the New Church Building Fund:

No Report

175th Anniversary Committee:

No Report

Cemetery Committee:

No Report

Lutheran Laymen's League / Lutheran Hour:

No Report

Men's Activities Committee:

No Report

Lutheran Foundation: Tom Croucher reported that at the October 11, 2018 annual meeting, the foundation announced that they started with \$137,000,000.00 in 1995, have made \$170,000,000.00 in grants and today have \$225,000,000.00 in total assets.

Old Business:

Randy Lepper announced that due to other pressing issues, the Council has not addressed the pet issue in the Parsonages.

New Business:

Pastor Brock stated that the congregation has the opportunity to make nominations for officers at the upcoming Synodical convention. The Elder's have nominated the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison for LC-MS President. Delin Kleine announced that Contribution statements will be mailed soon to the members. Also, the Sunday bulletin will have the thermometer indicating what is needed to meet the end of year expenses.

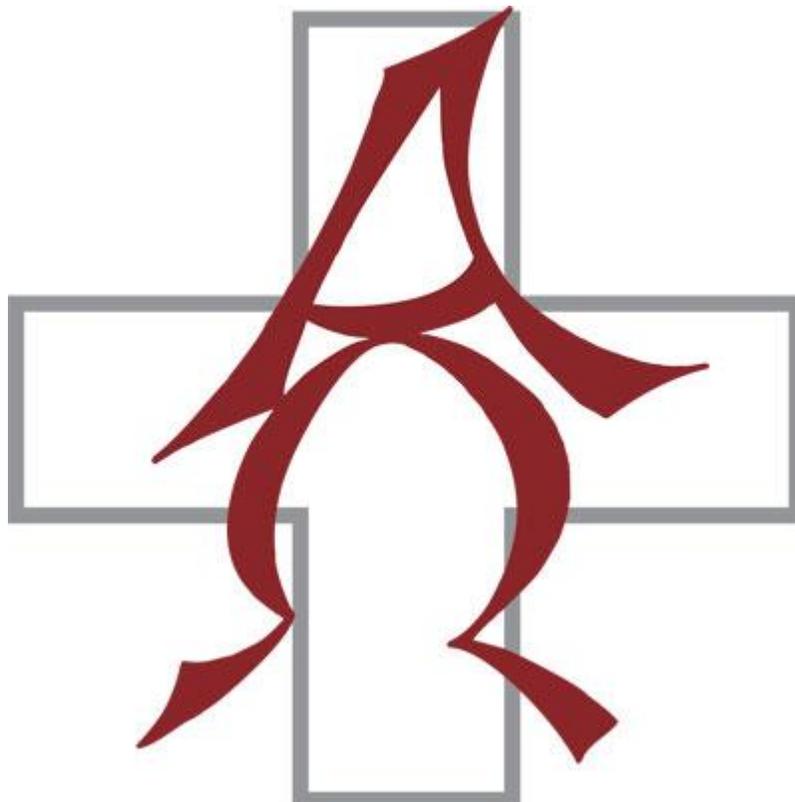
M/S/C To Adjourn at 9:57 p.m.

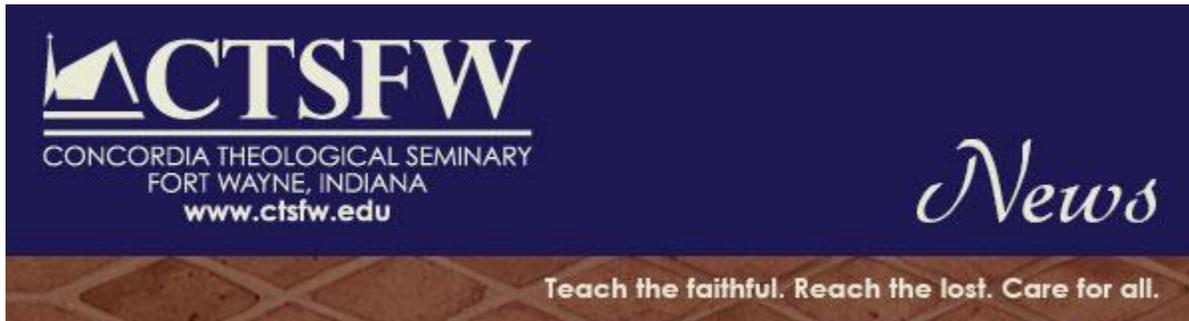
Pastor Brock closed with the Lord's Prayer prayed in unison and the Benediction.

Members Present: 52

Others Present: 0

Respectfully Submitted
Jeffery L. Kiess





FORT WAYNE, Ind. (CTSFW)—Check out the upcoming events offered by Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), 6600 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana. For additional information concerning all events please go to www.ctsfw.edu or phone 260-452-2100. *Please note that all times for campus events are Eastern Time.*

MUSIC & WORSHIP SERVICES

All events take place in Kramer Chapel and are open to the public. We will also livestream these events at www.ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel and www.facebook.com/ctsfw unless otherwise indicated.

Chapel Schedule – Academic Year (September through May, when classes are in session.)

- 7:40 a.m.: Matins
- 10:00 a.m.: Daily Chapel (live streamed when classes are in session.)
- 6:00 p.m.: Vespers/Evening Prayer (Monday through Thursday)
- 9:30 p.m.: Compline (Sunday)

The Lord's Supper is celebrated each Wednesday when classes are in session and also on other days when a Feast or Festival occurs. Individual Confession and Absolution is available at scheduled times in the Chapel undercroft.

December 8, 4:00 p.m. Advent Candlelight Evening Prayer

December 11, 1:00 p.m. Seminary Guild in Kramer Chapel (Christmas with the Kantorei)

January 13, 4:00 p.m. Epiphany Evening Prayer

January 16, 5:00 p.m. Symposia Choral Vespers

January 17, 5:00 p.m. Symposia Vespers and Organ Recital (no livestream)

Symposia Series 2019 – January 15-18

34th Annual Symposium on Exegetical Theology
“Soaring like an Eagle: Themes in the Gospel of John”

42nd Annual Symposium on the Lutheran Confessions
“The 500th Anniversary of the Leipzig Debate – The Question of Authority in the Church.”



CHRIST-CENTERED CROSS-FOCUSED TALK RADIO...Issues,

Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen live or at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

REMINDER: Please help the office update your information for the 2019 Membership Directory. Have you or a loved one changed their address or phone number? Please call or email the church office with your current information. 260-639-6178 or churchoffice@stjohnbingen.com. Thank-you!



Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.
5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996
Phone: (260)471-5683 Toll-Free: (888)286-8002
WorshipAnew.org / info@WorshipAnew.org

December 2018

December 2, 2018 – First Sunday in Advent

Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18; Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Gospel: Luke 21:25-36
“Watching. Waiting. Hoping.” - Sermon Text: Luke 21:25-36 - Rev. James Elsner

As Christmas draws near, Advent provides a season of preparation for Christ’s coming. Knowing that Jesus will reappear, are you fearful? Or, Hoping?

December 9, 2018 – Second Sunday in Advent

Psalm 66:1-12; Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-7b; Gospel: Luke 3:1-20
“Prepare the Way” - Sermon Text: Luke 3:4b - Rev. Shayne Jonker

Repentance and forgiveness. This is the pattern of the Christian life. This is the daily death and resurrection of those baptized into Christ. And this is how we prepare to meet the Lord Jesus in His coming to us.

December 16, 2018 – Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm 85; Old Testament: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Gospel: Luke 7:18-28
“Are You the One?” - Sermon Text: Luke 7:18-28 - Rev. William Mueller

Have you wondered what God was up to in your life? Don’t fret if you have – so did John the Baptist. Feel frustrated in your faith? Don’t worry – just ask the right person, like John the Baptist did. Ask Jesus in the moments of frustration and fear...and be encouraged by His answer!

December 23, 2018 – The Nativity of Our Lord–Christmas Observed

Psalm 98; Old Testament: Titus 3:4-7; Gospel: Luke 2:1-14
“God Comes Near!” - Sermon Text: Luke 2:9 - Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

“The hopes and fears of all the years” came together over two thousand years ago in the “little town of Bethlehem.” God came near. What are your hopes this Christmas? Your fears? God comes near! “O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!”

December 30, 2018 – First Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 111; Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17; Gospel: Luke 2:22-40
“In the Name of Jesus” - Sermon Text: Colossians 3:12-17 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

As we face a new year, or at any time in the year, what is the best advice as to how we are to live? Do everything in the name of Jesus! We can live in such a manner, because of Jesus’ name!

Worship Anew can be viewed every SUNDAY:

- 7:00 a.m.** EPTA-TV 21.2 [NBC]
- 8:00 a.m.** MyTV 21.3
- 11:30 a.m.** WINM-TV 12/38 [TCT]
- 4:00 p.m. & Monday 10:00 a.m.** Comcast 55 & Frontier 25 [PEG]

“Worship Anew” can also be found on the following website - click "Online Worship": www.worshipanew.org