



# *The* **St. Johns Servant**

**St. Johns  
Lutheran Church**

Park Rapids, Minnesota

January, 2023



## **REMINDER**

### **Important! Changes to January Sunday Schedule**

The big news at the November Voters meeting was the decision to have one worship service on Sundays during January. Our worship service will be at 9:00 a.m. with communion on the first and third Sunday. Sunday School, coffee and Bible study will be at 10:15 a.m.

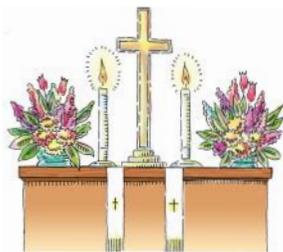


### **Christmas Undecorating**

We plan to take down the Christmas decorations on Monday, January 2 starting at 9:00 a.m. Coffee and rolls will be served.

### **It's Time to Renew...**

...your Lutheran Witness subscription. The cost is \$25.80 for a one year subscription. There is a special Lutheran Witness envelope in your offering packet. Please put your name and address on the back of the envelope to help us double check for correct information. Deadline to turn in subscriptions is January 29.



### **Sign Up for Altar Flowers in 2023**

The 2023 flower chart is posted in the front lobby. If you would like to provide flowers for the altar on one or more Sundays, please sign up on the chart. You will receive a reminder call the week before you are scheduled to provide flowers.

### **Life Sunday**

Sunday, January 22 is Life Sunday. We believe that life is a precious gift from God from conception to old age and on this Sunday we especially focus on life. We will also have a special door offering for our local Pregnancy Resource Center which provides assistance for those who are facing an unplanned pregnancy.





## Guest Speaker for Ladies Aid Meeting

Rhonda Lageson from Helping Hands will be the guest speaker at the Ladies Aid meeting on Thursday, January 12 at 1:00 p.m. She will talk about the program which provides needed items for kids at the school. The Ladies Aid invites you to bring in the following items she can use: shampoo, large tubes of toothpaste, brushes, bars of soap, chapstick, underwear for girls and boys sizes 4, 6, 8 & 10, boys socks. They will try to have a gift basket for her that day.



## Choirs Taking A Sabbath Rest

Both the Senior Choir and Bell Choir are taking a break from practices this month. They will start again on Wednesday, February 8 at 5:00 p.m. for the Bell Choir and 6:00 p.m. for the Senior Choir to prepare for the Lenten and Easter season. We hope you'll join us then!

## It's A Wonderful Life (in Christ)

That's the theme for Wednesday Bible Study this month. Pastor Harvala leads this study on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the social hall.



## Basket Fundraiser Thanks

Thank you to everyone who provided baskets for our fund raiser for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in North Fort Meyers, Florida. We raised over \$1,500 to help them recover from Hurricane Ian.

## Toys for Tots Thanks

Thank you, St. Johns parishioners! You donated gifts to help make this a happier Christmas for 56 children in 17 local families. The Board of Evangelism would like to thank you for your generosity and Christmas spirit.



## What's On The Lutheran Hour

- 1/01 "Out of Egypt"
- 1/08 "Gifted"
- 1/15 "Gifts to Share"
- 1/22 "Whatever You Do"
- 1/29 "Hopelessly Hopeful"

Listen to the Lutheran Hour every Sunday on KPRM 870 AM at 9:30 a.m. or KTIG 102.7 FM at 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. You can also listen on Sirius XM Family Talk Channel 131, Sundays at 9:00 a.m. or any time on SENTRadio at [lhm.org/sentradio](http://lhm.org/sentradio).

### † Baptism

12/17/22 Noah Malaki Koch  
Caroline Koch

### † Funeral

12/27/22 Elmer (Jake) Yliniemi



## Main Street Living Programs This Month



Programs are broadcast Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on KVRP Fargo-Moorhead or you can watch all of the archived programs at any time on line! To reach the website for archived programs you will first need to go to the MSL Network site at [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) and then click on "North."

January 1: Rev. Daniel Voth, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND, presents the message: "Our Exodus" based on Matthew 2:13-23. Lutheran Hour seasonal program: "The Other Wiseman" - Another Magi, making his journey to the Christ child, encounters others and shows kindness along the way.

January 8: Rev. Thomas Puffe, St. John's Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, MN, and Zion Lutheran Church, Warren, MN, presents the message: "The Baptism of our Lord Jesus" based on Matthew 3:13-17. "This Is the Life" program: "Senior Citizen" - A man struggles with purpose and a place in life after retirement.

January 15: Rev. Daniel Suelzle, Wittenberg Chapel, Grand Forks, ND, presents the message: "The Lamb of God" based on John 1:29-42a. "This Is the Life" program: "The Deadly Pen" - A businessman struggles with the guilt of another man's death.

January 22: Life Sunday Service/Guest Speaker. "This Is the Life program": "Live Option" - A 15-year-old pregnant daughter and her mother disagree on the future of her child.

January 29: Rev. Richard Biberdorf, Grace Lutheran Church, Carrington, ND, Grace Lutheran Church, Cooperstown, ND, and Zion Lutheran Church, Rural Binford., presents the message: "When Worlds Collide" based on 1 Corinthians 1:26-31. "This Is the Life" program: "Transition" - A young boy reacts to the divorce of his parents and the new reality he now faces.

## Stewardship Review—November

Avg. Sunday Worship Attendance: **170**

Total Offerings: <b>\$39,252</b>	Total Offerings, November, 2021: <b>\$39,750</b>	Budget/Week <b>\$10,345</b>
Total Expenses: <b>\$35,783</b>	Total Expenses, November, 2021: <b>\$39,429</b>	Budget/Month <b>\$44,827</b>
Difference <b>\$3,469</b>	Difference <b>\$321</b>	

Avg. Weekly Offerings <b>\$9,813</b>	Total Offerings, year to date: <b>\$416,598</b>
Avg. Weekly Expenses <b>\$8,946</b>	Total Expenses, year to date: <b>\$421,049</b>
Difference <b>\$867</b>	Difference <b>- \$4,451</b>

CNB Checkbook Balance as of 11/30/22: <b>\$87,375</b>	Our Healthy Balance Goal <b>\$74,000</b>
Less dedicated accounts <b>- \$1,682</b>	Raised so far <b>\$59,564</b>
Difference <b>\$85,693</b>	Still need <b>\$14,436</b>

Front Entry Payable **\$22,569**





**THANK YOU** to all the people who worked so hard to make our “Breakfast in Bethlehem” a great success. What a wonderful way to share the joy of this Christmas season!



Renee and Ron Ahmann put up some wonderful scenes from Bethlehem. This shop was a popular photo spot.



The crowd enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Fellowship Board at beautifully decorated tables.



Doug Kingsley and the Fazekas family goat braved the cold.



Door prizes were given out after the Christmas story performance.



Each family got a mug and ornament.



You can make this delicious egg bake at home. Elayne Luiken shared her recipe!



Who knew there was such a wide variety of nativity scenes? We had around 50 and each one was unique.



Laurie Kimball had a craft room for the kids where they could make ornaments, necklaces and decorate cookies. Sarah Kaufenberg taught them how to play carols on the kazoo.



Jada Lapping, Rachel Ulvin and Matt Neubauer helped with kids' activities after serving the meal.



Jerry and Paula Eischens portrayed Mary and Joseph in the Christmas story.

### Elayne Luiken's Hash Brown Egg Bake

1 bag frozen hashbrowns

10 beaten eggs

2 1/2 cups half and half

1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper

2 cups grated cheddar cheese

1/2 cup cooked chopped bacon

1/4 cup finely chopped green onion

Grease a 9x13 pan. Using mixer, mix well the eggs, milk, salt, pepper, garlic powder. Place frozen hashbrowns in bottom of pan. Cover potatoes with cheese, onion and bacon. Pour egg mixture over all. Cover and refrigerate overnight or 8-10 hours. Bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes. Let sit 5-10 minutes before serving.





## Sunday School News

### Perfect Attendance—December

2nd Grace Hockett, Colton Nilson  
 4th Wyatt Goodwater  
 5th Clinton Koch, Alex Lof, Kryton Nilson,  
 Will Sanquist  
 6th Zachary Harju, Khloe May  
 8th Max Harju, Sawyer Harvey, Austin Lee,  
 Aiden May

December Offering—\$31.00

*Great job!*



1/7 Ava Kimball  
 1/11 Peightyn Walker  
 1/24 Sawyer Eidsmoe  
 1//27 Emma Quinn  
 1/30 Lilah Forbes

### Baptismal Birthday

1/24 Thatcher Eidsmoe



## Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

*Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.*

### FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

God made wild animals and livestock.

God said, "Let there be light."

God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.

God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."

God created plants and trees.

God separated the light from the darkness.

God made the water teem with living creatures.

God made the sun and moon.

God made birds fly above the earth.

God made stars.

God created mankind in his own image.

God \_aw all tha\_ he \_ad ma\_e, an\_ \_t was ve\_y g\_od.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fourth, fifth, sixth, sixth.

## Lessons this Month

January 1 No Sunday School

January 8 Claimed and Tested—Jesus' Baptism & Temptation

January 15 Fishers Follow—Jesus Calls Disciples

January 22 The Wine Sign—A Wedding at Cana

January 29 Mountain Message—Jesus Preaches on the Mount

**Remember classes begin at 10:15 a.m.  
this month!**



## **STAR TRIP—Our Faith Awakens Program Was A Hit**

Our Sunday School program this year had a “Star Wars” theme. Check out the fun photos below. After the program, everyone enjoyed cookies and hot chocolate. A huge thank you to Sarah Kaufenberg for directing the program, our Sunday School staff, Sandy Phillips, Ruth Knaack, Shelley Lof, Tori Harju, Staci Lee, Melissa Koch, Jillian Neubauer and Connie Fondow, for all their hard work on the program and throughout the year!





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*Pastor Larry Harvala*



The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod

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## Reminder!

During January our Sunday worship  
schedule will be:

Worship at 9:00 a.m. (one service only)  
Sunday School and Bible study  
at 10:15 a.m.