

The Epistle

DECEMBER 2024

**St. John's Lutheran
Red Bud, Illinois**

Church: 508 Bloom Street
618/282-2394

School: 808 South Main Street
618/282-3873

618-282-4087 (fax)

office@stjohnsredbud.org

www.stjohnsredbud.org

Worship: Saturdays at 5 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education Hour:

Sundays from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the sacraments and provide Christian education in service to all people.

Rev. Mark Winkelman, Vacancy Pastor

Rev. Art Eichhorn, Vacancy Pastor

Rev. Brian Nowak, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Lindsey Hudak, Director of Parish Music

Mr. Justin Palm, Principal

Mr. William Becker, Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Amanda Falkenhain, Daycare Director

Your Pastors' Ponderings

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ,

I have enjoyed the last two months newsletters and this idea of taking a deeper look at a single word. Since this is the Newsletter for the month of December, I figured why not end the year with a Christmas word. So, let us look at the word "JOY." Look in the dictionary and you find that joy, in a way, is not a word. This is because joy is more of an emotion. It is that feeling we receive when we find great pleasure or delight in something.

As we enter into the season of Christmas, we can find joy all around us. Joy in children sledding down a hill. Joy in receiving cards or phone calls from loved ones. Joy in seeing the enthusiasm and excitement on the face of a child as they open a present wondering what it could be.

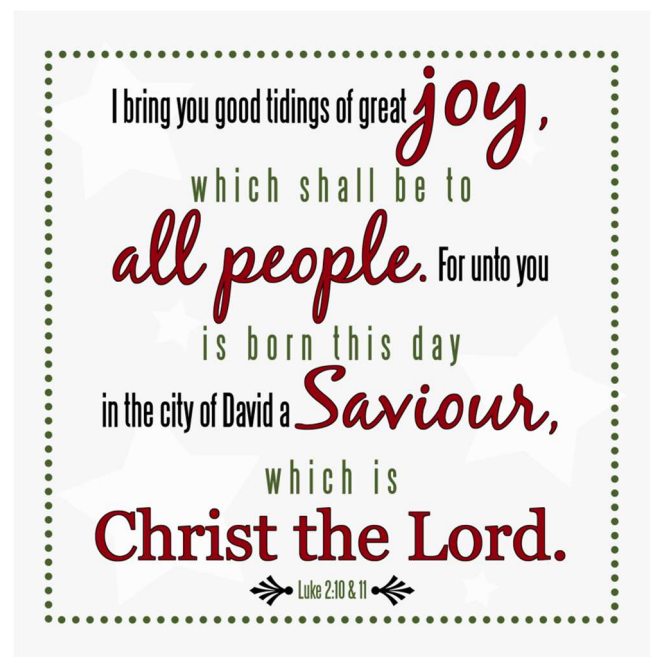
These can be seen as great experiences or delights we encounter. However, are they really great? Some we may answer yes to because they might be things that we just find irreplaceable. I guess it

depends on what we are looking at or experiencing. In James 1:2 it states, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds ..." (ESV). Initially, this verse does not bring me joy. I mean first, who wants to face trials and second, even though we are told that we are going to go through trials in our lives, who wants to take joy in those trials? Trials are not necessarily seen as good things.

Think about it ... Jesus Christ likely did not experience joy through the pain and suffering He endured on the cross. However, He knew that by paying this price and being resurrected from the dead it would mean joy for all who those believe and trust in Him as their Lord and Savior. We would receive the joy of eternal life with Him one day. It is amazing how we can receive joy at the expense of someone else's pain.

Where do you find joy? I pray you find joy in all types of things in this season and always. I also pray that you not let James 1:2 end where the verse does. I pray that you continue and read verses 3 and 4. When we read a little farther, we find joy. For the text continues, "... for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." May God Bless you now and always.

God's blessings, Pastor Brian Nowak



From Lutheran Hour Ministries

He Came

Written by Rev. Dr. Kari Vo

I love how John begins his Gospel—first the great cosmic sweep of "in the beginning," with the One God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who has always been and always will be. This is the God who made heaven and earth, and all things in them, including us. How could we possibly know this great and awesome God, or begin to understand Him?

He "became flesh, and dwelt among us." How could this be? God the Son, the very Word of God, took on human nature, and was born among us, like any human baby. Because He loved us, He came into the world to live among us, full of grace and truth. And we know Him by the intimate Name of Jesus—"God is our Savior."

Who could ever dream of a God who would give His own life for the people He made, to redeem them from evil? But Jesus did. And then He rose from the dead, never to die again—and He shares that everlasting life with everyone who trusts in Him.

During this Advent season, let's prepare to celebrate the birth of the One who loves us. Come, let us adore Him.

WE PRAY: Dear Lord, we love You. Thank You for coming to us. Amen.



Poinsettia Garden

We thank the Altar Guild for taking on this project each year as it is such a beautiful addition to our chancel as well as a heartfelt way to remember our loved ones or just give thanks to the glory of God for His many blessings to us. You may find Poinsettia Garden forms in the back of church or in the school office. The cost is \$7, and you may return it to the office or by way of the offering basket by Thursday, December 19. Thank you!

December Servers

Flowers: Vernitta Wolter & Diane Kunkelmann
Paraments: Virginia Moeller Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Welcome to Our Family of Faith

November 9 Baptisms of Madalynn Sue Gulley
& Colton Dean Gulley
November 30 Baptism of Isabella Dawn Wilson

We Bid a Fond Farewell

November 23 Death of Wayne Voss

From Your Director of Christian Education

One of my favorite Advent hymns is O Come, O come, Emmanuel. In verse one we hear "*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*"

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. We await the commemoration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus. Jesus came to us as the babe of Bethlehem. He came in God's perfect timing. He's coming again also in God's perfect timing. The worries of this present age will soon fade away. God's perfect plan of salvation has been revealed.

The Junior Youth will assist with the decorating of the church on Dec. 1. An event is also being planned for Monday, Dec. 30. A trip to Carbondale for a hike at Giant City State Park and then a glow painting activity are being planned. More details will be available soon. The eighth grade class will be hosting the Christmas cottage fundraiser Dec. 5-6 in the school's library. On behalf of the class, we thank you for your support of all the fundraisers as money was raised for the class trip. Diana and I will be delivering the gifts for the LCFS needy children to O'Fallon on Friday, Dec. 6. The primary Sunday school Christmas service will be on Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Please join us as we listen to our youngest Sunday school students share the account of Jesus' birth. The school children will be leading the Advent services beginning at 9 a.m. and 7p.m. once again in the school's old gym beginning Dec. 4 (grades 3-5), Dec. 11 (grades K-2), Dec. 18 (Daycare-Preschool) and Dec. 20 (grades 6-8 up at church.), The Senior

Youth will be involved with the 9 p.m. candlelight service on Dec. 24. We are planning for Sunday school on Dec. 22 and 29. The Sunday school teachers will not meet on Monday, Dec. 30.

We are seeking a co-teacher for grades four & five Sunday school class. Currently I am teaching the class and would like to switch every other month with someone. If you are interested in helping with this, please let me know.

As we proceed through the coming month and into a new year, I pray God's peace and comfort is with all of you this blessed season!

In His service, *Bill Becker*

The Prayer Chain

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. To serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact her at dvheller@htc.net or 618/521-7417. Call our office to add someone to our worship prayers. *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16).*

Junior Youth

Our December Junior Youth Group event is Saturday, December 30th for a day trip to Carbondale. We will leave the school parking lot at 8:30 a.m. to start our day with a Winter Hike at Giant City. We hope to find all hidden gnomes along the trails. Be sure to bring a sack lunch to eat after our hike. Then from 1-4p.m. we will attend a Glow Painting Party at the art center in Carbondale. There will be a cost per person for this portion of the event, estimating \$20. Then return back to school at 5:30p.m. Please contact Erin Kuehn if your child is interested and if you're interested in going as a driver.

From the Principal's Pen

Greetings to you this Advent season! As we prepare for the Christ Child, may your days be a blessing as we share the wonderful news with our family and friends.

We congratulate Mr. William Becker for being selected as the VFW Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Award winner. We are proud to recognize him for representing our school and community.



Pictured above is Mr. Becker receiving his award from VFW member Larry Ehlers.

We are very thankful for and very proud of the men and women who we remembered and honored during our Veteran's Day Program on November 8. We would like to thank Maureen Liefer for speaking at our assembly. Naval Commander Liefer talked about how her confirmation verse Psalms 23:1 was the guiding force in her military career and after. She challenged the students to keep their faith throughout their life, even giving Cailyn a Military Challenge coin. We were happy to see so many former Veterans and their families!!



Pictured above is Naval Commander Maureen Liefer presenting the Military Challenge coin to Cailyn Wilson.

Both our boys and girls are busy with regular-season basketball games and cheerleaders get our home crowd pumped up during every game. The boys' varsity team competed in the 16-team tournament hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran

School in Collinsville. They had a school-best finish this year in the tournament, 2nd Place!!



Back row: Blaine Rolhfing, Jack Sachtleben, Brendyn Wegener, Lyle Schlueter, Carson Moll, and Liam Kilpatrick. Front row: Colby Hartmann, Easton Ruebusch, Colton Albert, Sutton Jones, Carr Hartmann, Lucas Summers, Evan Muench, Brayden McCarthy

The girls' team competed in the 6-team tournament hosted by Trinity St. John's Nashville. They also set school history by winning the tournament for the first time ever!! Aside from the heat of competition both teams were able to enjoy some Lutheran fellowship and services as both of these tournaments had only Lutheran Schools Participate and offered church services after competition on Saturday evening. Please check the school's website for the schedule of dates and times, found under calendars.



ALT Tournament Champions: Coaches: Scott Voss, Quent Stenzel, David Kaiser, Adam Cowell, and Jacob Arbeiter. Back row players: Colae Kaiser, Layla Kilpatrick, Aubrey Kiefer, Sophia Zieger, Sophia Voss, Elle Sutton Kayda Kaiser. Front Row: Allie Seiber, Tessa Stenzel, and Ella Cowell

Thanks to all who ordered Watkins again this year. The money helps to support the sports uniform account. Just a note that orders will be arriving late this year due to some complications that our Watkins representative has experienced.



The junior high school students are in the midst of their second quarter service project. They have visited Garden Place three times and will soon visit six more times. On these visits the students play the game "Farkle" with the residents. During the visits many genuine conversations have taken place and what appears to be a whole lot of fun for all.

We are preparing our Christmas messages with our children. They are working hard to learn their parts in word and song. Each grade group will share the Christmas story in their unique way. Family members are invited to attend these services which will be held in the old gym or church.

The schedule of these services is as follows:

- Grades 3-5 : December 4th at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm (School's Old Gymnasium)
- Kindergarten-2nd Grade: December 11 at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm(School's Old Gymnasium)
- Daycare & Preschool on December 18 at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm (School's Old Gymnasium)
- Grades 6-8 on Dec. 20 at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm (Church)

Our students once again will be able to shop at the Christmas cottage on December 5 and 6. This is sponsored by the 8th grade class. The funds earned will go towards their Washington DC trip in 2025.

Our only early dismissal day for December will be Wednesday, December 20. Dismissal will be at 1:45 p.m. There will be no after-school care that day.

May joy, love, peace, and hope of Christmas fill your hearts during the Christmas season and into the new year!
God's Blessings, Justin Palm

Senior Youth

Senior Youth will hold our Christmas lunch on December 8th, with more details to come.

They will assist with our 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion Candlelight service on December 24th.

We're also selling Advent scripture and prayer cards that follow our lectionary readings. They're \$5 for 20 cards and are available in the fellowship hall. Contact Stephanie Liefer for more information. 618-967-0804.



Help Eliminate the 2024 Operating Debt

I, Pastor Nowak, have been approached by several individuals who will remain anonymous. These individuals have agreed to match funds collected between now and December 31, 2024. All funds will be matched up to \$150,000 to eliminate the 2024 Operating Debt. These funds should be considered funds given above and beyond your normal weekly offering. So, please place these funds in a regular envelope and write "Debt Elimination" on it. If no funds are received, we lose out on the matching funds. Remember what the Bible says about stewardship in 1 Peter 4:10, "Each of you shall use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" (NIV). We will try to keep you informed of the weekly progress. Thank you in advance.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Repenting of "Yours" and "Mine"

Retailers have had their Christmas displays up since before Reformation Sunday. The kids have made their list and checked it twice, or three times or more. It won't be long before the tree will start shedding its needles, the stockings emptied, the gifts unwrapped, toys broken, and the too small or out of style clothes returned. Before we know it, the annual celebration of Christmas will be over.

But for the children of God, we know that the gift of Christmas doesn't ever end. Week in and week out, the Lord continues to shower His gifts on us. Every time the Lord gathers us to His house, and we are led to kneel at His table, the gift of forgiveness is repeatedly granted to us. It is nothing we deserve. It comes to us freely!

The fourth stanza of the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us Lord for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788) highlights both this gift and our response.

*Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
that gives as Christ gave, never counting cost*

To learn thankfulness is necessary. The parents of young children are well-versed in the fact that they must teach their children thankfulness. It does not come naturally. The spiritual genetics inherited from our parents allow us to think that the world revolves around us. When we receive something, there is an inward desire to think that we in some way deserve it.

But there is no way that we deserve anything we get from our Lord. We need that ongoing lesson from God Himself. Thankfulness toward God is worked in us by the Holy Spirit. God's Word works this thanksgiving in us. We need this weekly reminder that Jesus didn't consider "equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself" for us, to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:6). He didn't bat an eye. He paid the price! Our life of stewardship is one of daily and weekly thanksgiving inspired by the Lord Himself.

*That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
assured that only what's withheld is lost.*

Because Jesus gave us everything and more, there can be no ownership. The child at Christmas is quick to claim that the newly gifted toy is "mine!" But as Psalm 24:1 asserts, "The earth is

the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein." There isn't anything in creation that is ours. When we cling to and claim ownership of anything in creation, we are losing out on the continual gifts with which the Lord desires to shower upon us. Closed hands cannot receive anything new. We cling to the old and dead and miss the new thing that the Lord desires to do in and for us.

We are led to repent of the "yours" and "mine" and remove the lie that we have any ownership. In this we have the promise that God will continue to give to us. Not just at Christmas, but every Sunday at the altar in the Lord's house.

Men's Club

The Men's Club will meet on Thursday, December 12th at 6p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will have our Christmas dinner and fellowship to follow.

The menu will consist of beef vegetable soup and chicken salad sandwiches. Please come and enjoy an evening of food and fellowship.

Midweek Bible Classes in the Fellowship Hall

On Wednesdays Our Women's Bible Class is at 9:30 a.m. and Our Mom's Bible Study is at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Evening Guild News

Advent Candlelight Program - Evening Guild

Christmas Party is Tuesday, December 3, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Guests and husbands are welcome for a fried chicken potluck dinner. Please bring a covered dish. The November Mission project for Musketeer Market and ComWell continues.

LWML Winter Quarterly and December SID Newsletter December will be available for pickup at the church entrance or at the Christmas Party.

LWML Scholarships: Southern Illinois District LWML offers scholarships to students going into full-time church work (pastor, teacher, DCE) this coming fall semester. Applications are on the website at www.sidlwml.org and must be submitted by March 15, 2025.

Quilting schedule for December is Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon in the quilting room.

Sunday School

Perfect Attendance for November-
Pre-K3: Atlee Thien, Sophia Uffelmann, Logan Gramenz, Cash Grohman, Dallin Liefer; Pre-K4: Eve Guebert, Lillian Guebert, Nolan Liefer, Clarke Thien; Kindergarten: Ben Langrehr, Eliza Schrader, Case Uffelmann; Second Grade: Jettson Grohmann. Thank you for your participation in and your support of our Sunday School ministry!



LCMS Foundation

"There are so many things I wish I could share with my children, but whenever we are together, it seems we are always racing off to a soccer game or dance recital. We never really get to talk." This was the sentiment that Rachel was expressing to her sister as the two were enjoying an unseasonably warm November day on the screened porch. Rachel's husband passed away suddenly about two years ago and since then, these two sisters have spent more time together.

"I know what you mean," said Karen. "But that changed for me a few years ago when Bill and I put our estate plan together. We worked with an LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor, and she kept insisting that we create a statement of faith to share with our family and friends. She called it a Family Blessing. The counselor also urged us to meet formally with our kids to share the details of our estate plan with them. It was then that Bill and I both read our Family Blessings to the kids out loud. By the end we were all shedding some tears and hugging. It was the first time in a long time that we had deep

conversations about our confidence in Jesus, rather than just talking about attending Sunday service. It was great.”

Rachel responded, “You know, since Fred died, I have been needing to review my estate plan. Maybe I’ll give the counselor a call and see if she can help me do the same thing.”

Your estate plan is not just about money and laws. It is about relationships and sharing Jesus. To get started on your journey and kindle those conversations with the people you love most, contact Scott Radden, Gift Planning Counselor at 618-977-4049 or Scott.Radden@LFND.org.



Acolyte Schedule

Sat. Dec. 7	5 p.m. Colton Albert
Sun. Dec. 8	8 a.m. Athena Wolfmeier 10:30 a.m. Elle Sutton
Sat. Dec. 14	5 p.m. Liam Kilpatrick
Sun. Dec. 15	8 a.m. Max Voss 10:30 a.m. Tessa Stenzel 6:00 p.m. Natalie Kassing
Fri. Dec. 20	9 a.m. Layla Kilpatrick 7 p.m. Abby Stellhorn
Sat. Dec. 21	5 p.m. Addison Breier
Sun. Dec. 22	8 a.m. Natalie Kassing 10:30 a.m. Kaydence Proctor
Tues. Dec. 24	3 p.m. Carson Moll 5 p.m. Grayden Schloemann 9 p.m. Senior Youth
Wed. Dec. 25	9 a.m. Bryce & Bill Becker
Sat. Dec. 28	5 p.m. Jacob Liefer
Sun. Dec. 29	8 a.m. Charlie Muench 10:30 a.m. Wiley Minemann
Tues. Dec. 31	6 p.m. Lucy Kuehn
Wed. Jan. 1	10 a.m. Austin Stellhorn
Sat. Jan. 4	5 p.m. Sutton Jones
Sun. Jan. 5	8 a.m. Brynlee Liefer 10:30 a.m. Clare Carnahan

If you are not able to serve when scheduled, please switch with another acolyte and be sure to contact our office with the change. Thank you!

Worship Greeters

Sat. Dec. 7	5 p.m. Virginia & Mark Moeller
Sun. Dec. 8	8 a.m. Cindy Steele & Sharon Henke 10:30 a.m. Ron & Donna Burgdorf
Sat. Dec. 14	5 p.m. Stanley & Lynn Langrehr
Sun. Dec. 15	8 a.m. Clyde & Kathy Rowold 10:30 a.m. Jim & Judy Guebert 6:30 p.m. Kim & Addison Breier
Fri. Dec. 20	7 p.m. Kim & Addison Breier
Sat. Dec. 21	5 p.m. Virginia & Mark Moeller
Sun. Dec. 22	8 a.m. Christine Doerr & Lisa Quinn 10:30 a.m. Ron & Diane Kunkelmann
Tues. Dec. 24	3 p.m. <i>Volunteer Needed</i> 5 p.m. Gerald & Jill Hanebutt 9 p.m. Senior Youth
Wed. Dec. 25	9 a.m. Jim & Judy Guebert
Sat. Dec. 28	5 p.m. Virginia & Mark Moeller
Sun. Dec. 29	8 a.m. Kalin & Kathy Liefer 10:30 a.m. Gerald & Jill Hanebutt
Tues. Dec. 31	6 p.m. Kim & Addison Breier
Wed. Jan. 1	10 a.m. Clyde & Kathy Rowold
Sat. Jan. 4	5 p.m. Stanley & Lynn Langrehr
Sun. Jan. 5	8 a.m. Cindy Steele & Sharon Henke 10:30 a.m. Vernitta Wolter & Cindy Ebers

We need two people (two individuals or a couple) to serve as greeters for the 8 a.m. service. This will be once every five weeks. The only requirements, expectations and duties are to stand for about 15 minutes, smile and greet people as they enter the church.



December Church and School Calendar

Thursday, December 5-

Christmas Cottage at School

6:00 p.m. BBB vs PDR

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church

Friday, December 6-

Christmas Cottage at School

GBB "A" Team Tournament @ Edwardsville

BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC

Saturday, December 7-

GBB "A" Team Tournament @ Edwardsville

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, December 8-

GBB "A" Team Tournament @ Edwardsville

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. Sonshine Visits Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 9-

6:00 p.m. GBB vs Evansville

7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

Tuesday, December 10-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. Office Staff Meeting

6:00 p.m. GBB vs Chester Lutheran

Wednesday, December 11-

7 a.m. Public School Confirmation Class

9:00 a.m. K-2nd Grade Christmas Service at School

9:00 a.m. to Noon Quilting in Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

3:30 p.m. Public School Confirmation Class

6:00 p.m. Mom's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. K-2nd Grade Christmas Service at School

8:00 p.m. Board of Parish Education Meeting

Thursday, December 12-

3:00 p.m. Holy Communion Service

6:00 p.m. BBB vs RBES (A & B only)

6:00 p.m. GBB @ Valmeyer

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church

6:00 p.m. Men's Club Meeting & Christmas Dinner

Friday, December 13-

BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC

GBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBL

Saturday, December 14-

BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC

GBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBL

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

SUNDAY, December 15-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

6:00 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service

Monday, December 16-

5:30 p.m. BBB @ Marissa

6:00 p.m. GBB vs SPCCS

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

Tuesday, December 17-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. Office Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. GBB @ Holy Childhood (A & C only)

6:00 p.m. BBB vs New Athens

Wednesday, December 18-

7 a.m. Public School Confirmation Class

9:00 a.m. Daycare-PreK Christmas Service at School

9:00 a.m. to Noon Quilting in Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

3:30 p.m. Public School Confirmation Class

6:00 p.m. Mom's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Daycare-PreK Christmas Service at School

Thursday, December 19-

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church

Friday, December 20-

9 a.m. & 7 p.m. 6-8th Grade Road to Bethlehem Pageant at Church

Saturday, December 21-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, December 22-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Monday, December 23-

No School – Christmas Break

7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

Tuesday, December 24-

No School & Office Closed – Christmas Eve

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 25- **Merry Christmas!**

No School & Office Closed – Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion

Thursday, December 26-

No School – Christmas Break

Friday, December 27-

No School – Christmas Break

Saturday, December 28-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

SUNDAY, December 29-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Monday, December 30-

No School – Christmas Break

8:30 a.m. Jr Youth - Day trip to Carbondale

7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

Tuesday, December 31-

No School & Office Closed – New Years Eve

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m. New Years Eve Service with Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 1- **Happy New Year!**

No School & Office Closed – New Years Day

10:00 a.m. New Years Day Matins Service

Thursday, January 2-

No School – Christmas Break

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church

Friday, January 3-

No School – Christmas Break

Saturday, January 4-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, January 5-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - Red Bud, Illinois
Worship Calendar: 2024-2025 - Church Year C

DECEMBER 2024

Sat/Sun 30/1 1st Sunday in Advent
Wed 4 9:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. Grades 3-5 Christmas
 Sat/Sun 7/8 2nd Sunday in Advent
Wed 11 9:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. Grades K-2 Christmas
 Thu 12 *3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
 Sat/Sun 14/15 3rd Sunday in Advent
 Sun 15 6 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service
Wed 18 9:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. Daycare/PS Christmas
 Fri. 20 9:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. Grades 6-8 Road to

Bethlehem Pageant

Sat/Sun 21/22 4th Sunday in Advent
 Tue 24 *3 & 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion
 Tue 24 *9 p.m. Christmas Eve Com./Candlelight
 Wed 25 *9 a.m. Christmas Day Communion
 Sat/Sun 28/29 *1st Sunday after Christmas
 Tue 31 *6 p.m. New Year's Eve Communion
Services in italics will be held in the school gym (old).
(Saturdays and Sundays do not match up this month!)

JANUARY 2025

Wed 1 10:00 a.m. New Year's Day (Matins)
 Sat/Sun 4/5 2nd Sunday of Christmas
 Thu 9 *3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
 Sat/Sun 11/12 1st Sunday after the Epiphany
 Sat/Sun 18/19 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany (Life)
 Sat/Sun 25/26 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany (St. Titus)

FEBRUARY 2025

Sat/Sun 1/2 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
 (Purification of Mary/Presentation of the Lord)
 Sat/Sun 8/9 5th Sunday after the Epiphany
 Thu 13 *3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
 Sat/Sun 15/16 6th Sunday after the Epiphany
 Sat/Sun 22/23 7th Sunday after the Epiphany

MARCH 2025

Sat/Sun 1/2 *Transfiguration of our Lord
 Wed 5 *8:30 a.m. & *7 p.m. Ash Wednesday
 Sat/Sun 8/9 1st Sunday in Lent
 Wed 12 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Midweek Lent
 Sat/Sun 15/16 2nd Sunday in Lent
 Wed 19 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Midweek Lent
 Sat/Sun 22/23 3rd Sunday in Lent
 Wed 26 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Midweek Lent
 Sat/Sun 29/30 *4th Sunday in Lent

APRIL 2025

Wed 2 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Midweek Lent
 Sat/Sun 5/6 5th Sunday in Lent
 Wed 9 8:30 a.m. & 7 pm Midweek Lent
 Thu 10 7 p.m. Confirmation Questioning Service
 Sat/Sun 12/13 *Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion
 (Rite of Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.)
 Thu 17 *8:30 a.m. & *7 p.m. Maundy Thursday
 Fri 18 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Good Friday
 Sat 19 *5 p.m. Resurrection Festival Service
 Sun 20 *6:30 a.m. Resurrection Sunrise Service

Sun 20 *10:30 a.m. Resurrection Festival Service
 Sat/ Sun 26/27 2nd Sunday of Easter

MAY 2025

Sat/Sun 3/4 3rd Sunday of Easter
 Sat/Sun 10/11 4th Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)
 Sat/Sun 17/18 5th Sunday of Easter
 Sat/Sun 24/25 6th Sunday of Easter (Freedom Celebration)
 Thu 29 NO ASCENSION DAY SERVICES

JUNE 2025

Sat/Sun 31/1 *7th Sunday of Easter
 Sat/Sun 7/8 *Day of Pentecost
 Sat/Sun 14/15 *Trinity Sunday (Father's Day)
 Sat/Sun 21/22 2nd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7)
 Sat/Sun 28/29 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 8)
(Saturdays and Sundays do not match up this month!)

JULY 2025

Sat/Sun 5/6 4th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 9)
 Sat/Sun 12/13 5th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 10)
 Sat/Sun 19/20 6th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 11)
 Sat/Sun 26/27 7th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 12)

AUGUST 2025

Sat/Sun 2/3 8th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 13)
 Sat/Sun 9/10 9th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 14)
 Sat/Sun 16/17 10th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 15)
 Sat/Sun 23/24 11th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 16)
 (Staff Dedication and/or Rally Day?)
 Sat/ Sun 30/31 12th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 17)

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sat/Sun 6/7 13th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18)
 Sat/Sun 13/14 14th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19)
 Sat/Sun 20/21 15th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 20)
 Sat/Sun 27/28 16th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 21)

OCTOBER 2025

Sat/Sun 4/5 17th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22) (LWML)
 Sat/Sun 11/12 18th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)
 Sat/Sun 18/19 19th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 24)
 Sat/Sun 25/26 *20th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)
 (Reformation)

NOVEMBER 2025

Sat/Sun 1/2 *21st Sunday after Pentecost All Saints'
 Day/Commemoration of Faithful Departed
 Sat/Sun 8/9 22nd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 27)
 Thu 13 *3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
 Sat/Sun 15/16 23rd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28)
 Sat/Sun 22/23 Last Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 29)
 Wed/Thu 26/27 *7 p.m. and *9 a.m. Thanksgiving
 Sat/Sun 29/30 1st Sunday in Advent (Series A-2025-2026)

Saturdays at 5 p.m.; Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.
 Holy Communion is at 5 p.m. on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays
 Holy Communion is at 8 a.m. on the 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Holy Communion is at 10:30 a.m. on 2nd & 4th Sundays
 *Holy Communion also is every 5th Saturday & 5th Sunday
 of the month and major church festivals