

This Week With Our Lord, December 24-31, 2017

When activities are in the Fellowship Hall, the sanctuary is open for prayer and meditation.

SUNDAY, December 24-

9:00 a.m. Intergenerational Sunday School/Bible Class in the FH

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

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

Greeters: Cliff and Arlou Papenberg Acolyte: Aubrey Piel

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

Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes: Senior Youth

Monday, December 25- *The Nativity of Our Lord*

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Communion Service Acolyte: Noah Tepe

Tuesday, December 26- *Pastor Nebel is on vacation thru Saturday*

Thursday, December 28- *January Epistle Articles are due*

Saturday, December 30-

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

Acolyte: Madison Falkenhain Greeter: Miriam Poston

SUNDAY, December 31-

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible classes

10:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Dylan Minemann

Greeters: Larry and Cindy Ebers; Vernon and Evelyn Muench

5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Holy Communion Service

Acolyte: Carlyne Mulherin Greeters: The Nebel family

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: *LCMS Stewardship Resources*

2 Samuel 7:4 "But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan ..."

Nathan thought David's idea was great, so he blessed it with the Lord's name. But later that night, the Word of the Lord set him straight. The Word of the Lord must be the basis for what we think, say, and do in God's Kingdom: not our own desires or whims.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 366; Communion: 195; Adult/Youth Classes: 55; Sunday School: 41.

Dec. 20 Midweek Advent Service: 39

Wednesday's Day School Christmas Service: AM- 282; PM- 650. *I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"* Psalm 122:1

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN, WHATE'ER THE GIFT MAY BE:

We join with one another in the grace of giving. Offering: 12/17- General Fund: \$15,429; School: \$235; Debt Reduction: \$16,550; Capital Campaign: \$100; Teacher Planning Time Sub: \$2500. Through November our expenses are \$268,589 over income. Our total liabilities are \$1,585,559. *Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

The flowers on the pedestal are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 70th wedding anniversary of Leonard and Norma Vogt on December 27. They are a gift from their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Thank you and God's blessings! To have flowers in worship please call the office at 282-3873 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks noted in the bulletin of those donating.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

What is your favorite story? This Christmas Eve Day, The Lutheran Hour speaks about God's greatest story. Listen to "The Greatest Story Ever Told" (Luke 1:30-32a), with Lutheran Hour Speaker Emeritus Dr. Ken Klaus on KFUV AM 850 Sunday at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio Sunday at 8 a.m. (KSIV 1320 AM or 91.5 FM).

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

The January–March 2018 edition of our daily devotional, *Portals of Prayer*, is available by the front and back door of church. Sonshine Visitation members are asked to take a copy to those whom they visit. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

This Sunday we meet together in the Fellowship Hall for an Intergenerational Sunday School. Next Sunday the time again will be at 9 a.m. but classes will resume as normal in church and at school.

THRIVENT WALL CALENDARS:

Thrivent is not mailing wall calendars this year. You can request one by calling 1-800/847-4836 and ask for "Fraternal." If you do not want your own copy, please ask them to send it to St. John's Lutheran, 808 S. Main, Red Bud.

OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Boxes of offering envelopes for the year 2018 are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Please take yours and those of your immediate family. If you did not receive a box and would like one, please call Julie at our office to request one.

SECRET ANGELS:

Please remember your student with a gift and a note of encouragement for Christmas. Thank you!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE:

Copies of our recent pictorial directory are available for purchase from our office for \$50. This money goes for our congregation's debt relief.

UPCOMING SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Sunday, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service

Sunday, Dec. 24 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion Candlelight Service

Monday, Dec. 25, 9 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Communion Service

Sunday, Dec. 31, 5 p.m. New Year's Eve Holy Communion Service

Monday, January 1, 10 a.m. New Year's Day Matins Service

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS:

The following Red Bud High School seniors who are members of St. John's were recognized as 2018 Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission: Katie Harms, Sophie Richards, Mackenzie Schweizer, Claudia Watters and Adam Wild. Congratulations!

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY CONFINED IN-HOME:

Leroy Guebert, Nancy Holmstrom, Don and Paulette Kueker, Joyce Lopez, Alvin Moeller, Edna Moeller, Dorothy Peters, Bill and Alice Smith, Leonard and Norma Vogt.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Virginia Bahr, Nina Guebert, Bernadine Kruse, H. Edward Liefer, Clifford Stellhorn, Eunice Stumpf, Willard Uffelmann, Wilma Uffelmann, and Jody Winkelmann; Oak Hill–Waterloo: Doris Koch Page 3

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

Twila Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Melba Liefer, Vernon and Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Dr. Paul Schrieber, Wilma Stellhorn, Edna Voss and Wilma Wagner

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Lisa Kloepper is our Prayer Chain coordinator. If you would like to serve as part of the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please call Lisa at 282-2426. Please call the church office if you would like 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).*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/24- Camden Moll, Emmeleigh Wittenborn; 12/25- Laura DuFrenne, Wayne Mesnarich, Ken Ruwald; 12/26- Christina Gidley, Michael VanDorn; 12/27- Angela Cartee, Lynn Langrehr, Andrea Liefer, Rick Liefer, Bailey Montroy, Louis Stellhorn, Donald Winkelmann; 12/28- Carl Becker, Addison Dilley, Linda Koester, Brenda vanBuren; 12/29- Kevin Miller; 12/30- Jordan Buch, Erin Cowell, Taylor Dilley, Traci Proctor, Allison Rainey, Blake Uffelmann, Edward Wagner. *Please call the office with corrections!*

REFORMATION 500:

The city of Magdeburg, a port on the Elbe River, is known as the “Bastion of Protestantism”. During the years 1497 to 1498, Luther was enrolled as a student in the school there that was operated by a religious group known as the Brethren of the Common Life. A city of great churches and monasteries, including the Cathedral of Saint Mauritius and Saint Catherine, and the Cloister of the Blessed Virgin, the atmosphere in Magdeburg must have made a great impression on the teenager. Years later, in 1524, the mayor of the city invited Luther to preach here, which he did at the end of June. His gospel message was so well received at Saint John’s Church and at other places where he preached, that the town whole-heartedly embraced the teachings of Luther. The date of his compelling sermon, June 26, is still marked in the city each year, and his statue stands in front of the Saint John Church to this day in this most important city.

SET UP DIRECT PAYMENTS THROUGH ACH:

If you so choose, payments for items such as worship offerings, school lunches, preschool tuition, and daycare can be withdrawn automatically and securely from the bank account you designate at either bi-weekly or monthly intervals. To set up this option, simply fill out a form (in the school office) and select each payment account you would like to have automatically withdrawn (e.g. school lunches, offerings, etc). It is free to set up, and you can make changes or cancel at any time at no cost. If there are insufficient funds in the specified account at the time of payment, no funds will be withdrawn and the user will be notified. Our hope is that this option will offer convenience to users and will result in a greater level of efficiency for our congregation. Please note that this is completely optional--no one is required to sign up. If you feel more comfortable continuing to use cash or check, please do so! *Kara Wagner, Treasurer*

SAVE THE DATE:

+REFORMATION WALK: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 @ St. John's Lutheran School, walk through the Reformation, meet Katie Luther, John Tetzler and others, witness Reformation events. For all ages.

+SCHOOL ALUMNI DINNER: Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the old gym. RSVP by Friday, January 26, 2018 by calling St. John’s Lutheran School at 618-282-3873.

“RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ON MY HEAD”:

Lost and Found items are on the coat rack shelf across from the restrooms. These include many umbrellas. Take a look, one of them may be yours!

WORSHIP GREETERS NEEDED:

There is an opening at our 10:30 a.m. service for a couple or for two individuals to serve as greeters once every five weeks. Please call the office if you can help!

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

Listen to Worldwide KFUO AM850, your radio station for news, talk, and sacred music with a Christ-centered Lutheran worldview. Archived programs are at KFUO.org for on-demand listening. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for your questions. **This week on KFUO AM850**, we wish all of our listeners a blessed Christmas! Tune in to hear Christmas music and readings for the Sacred Season beginning December 24 and continuing through Epiphany. Regular programming will resume on January 2, 2018.

LIFE THOUGHTS: *(from Lutherans for Life)*

Jesus is God amidst sinners, as humble in crucifixion as He was in conception and birth. His lowly life and death did not hinder but in fact heralded the full realm and reign of God for us. This reaffirms the worth of even the feeblest of humans. God’s gift of life is all the better for the plain packaging He habitually hides it behind. *Lamb of God, we hold You to cradle Your little ones also. Amen.*

CHURCH LIBRARY:

“The Book Nook” church library in the Fellowship Hall features “Treasured Lives: The Story of Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services” by Marlys Taege Moberg. It is a gift to our congregation from Rev. Rueben Schmitz, our guest earlier this month from Bethesda Lutheran Communities.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

618-853-7300 www.coslhs.org

Merry Christmas! Thank you for supporting the ministry of *Christ Our Savior* in 2017. We look forward to a joy-filled and blessed ministry to families in 2018.

Donation Drive for Life Network: The COS FFA Chapter is sponsoring a baby drive for Life Network of Southern Illinois. Life Network clients especially need baby swings, Aveeno lotion, Aveeno wash, and Dreft laundry detergent. However, all donations are appreciated. Drop your donation off at COS by January 26.

Holiday Hours: On December 27-29, the COS office will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 2-3. School will resume on January 4.

Early Registration Discount: The *Christ Our Savior* early registration deadline for 2018-2019 is January 31, 2018. The discounted rate is \$150 for those who register and pay the fee before the deadline. Interested families are encouraged to schedule a shadow day for their student.

Super Hero Themed Trivia Night: The annual COS trivia night will be January 26, 2018 at 7 pm. Prizes will be awarded to the best themed table. Trivia questions will cover a wide variety of topics to appeal to trivia players of all ages and abilities. The cost is \$12 per person with a limit of eight to a table. Students in 8th grade or under may attend for \$6 each. Reserve your table by calling [618-853-7300](tel:618-853-7300).

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.



St. John's Lutheran Church – LCMS
 508 Bloom Street, Red Bud, Illinois
 Church Office & School: 808 South Main Street
 (618) 282-3873 Fax 618-282-4087

E-mail: office@stjohnsredbud.org Web address: www.stjohnsredbud.org

Senior Pastor Mark Nebel 618-237-5802 or home 282-3050

Pastor Russell Koen 618-282-1958

Principal - Deitt Schneider 618-806-3049 or home: 824-6335

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 340-6055

Junior Youth - Lisa Quinn and Jennifer Roscow 282-5343

Athletic Director – Justin Palm 214-1103 Secretaries - Julie Ratz & Jessica Schloemann

Senior LYF – Terry and Susie Harms [618-201-5654](tel:618-201-5654); Pr. Russell Koen 282-1958

Matthew Foster, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool - Cindy Steele

Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz and Aid – Shawn DeRousse

First Grade – Rachel Miller

Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Lauri Koen and Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade – Bill Becker (Librarian)

Fifth Grade - Darlene Letcher and Cindy Nebel (Before/After School Care Director)

Sixth Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Doreen Schnepel

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) - Michelle Hines

Eighth Grade Homeroom and Athletic Director (6th-8th) – Justin Palm

Custodians – Loren Harms, Alan Ohms, and Bob Schramm

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Jennifer Pfannebecker, Chelsea Wegener, Lisa Quinn, Pam Henry, Nicole Kadlec, Eileen Seibold, Christy Deterding, Lori Moses, Danyelle Gargac, Heidi Guttmann, Samantha Yankey, Gerry Thompson, Morgan Woosley, Terra Williams, Melissa Everts, Patricia Brewer, Monica Kunkel, Kristi Martel and Courtney Nieweglowski

Church Council

Chairman: Eric Fritsche Vice-Chairman: Todd Birkner

Secretary: Becky Biffar Treasurer: Kara Wagner Board of Finance: Cindy Steele

Elder Chair: Gerald Hanebutt Parish Education Chair: Thomas Mulherin

Trustee Chair: Kenneth Langrehr Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Vickie Heller and Lisa Quinn

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher: Pastor Mark Nebel Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Russell Koen

Organist: Mrs. Joan Ruwald

(5 p.m.) Greeters: Virginia and Mark Moeller Acolyte: Katie Schneider

(10:00 a.m.) Greeters: Wil and Martha Krick; Cindy Steele & Olivia Schmitz

Acolyte: Abby Vallet

Acolyte: Flower Servers: Darla Cowell and Alverda Rahn

Chancel Paraments: Irma Birkner Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Red Bud, Illinois

The Fourth Sunday in Advent 2017

WELCOME to St. John's Lutheran Church! We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the sacraments and provide Christian education in service to all people. We are especially happy that we have visitors with us today. St. John's is a congregation which follows the historic order of Christian worship. Even if you are not Lutheran, you may recognize many of the elements of worship from your own tradition. If you or your small child needs a space for privacy during the service, Room 1 in the Fellowship Hall has a TV with a video feed of our worship service. To help with the reverent nature of our worship, please silence and do not use your cell phones and pagers during this service. Thank you!

ATTENDANCE: During the offering, please sign the black Friendship register at the end of the pew. We ask our guests to please fill out the red side of the card marked "Guests" in the attendance book and give it to an usher. We invite you to worship with us again very soon.

HEARING AND VISION ASSISTANCE: See an usher if you would like to check out a hearing assistance device during our worship service. You can sit anywhere you wish while wearing this device. You can adjust the volume as you desire. Please return it to an usher after worship. Large Print copies of the complete worship service and bulletin notes are available from an usher.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION: In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The individual cups of white wine in the center of the cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer this. Place a finger to your lips if you prefer an individual cup. For more information about this sacrament, please see pages 326-327 and 329-330 of *Lutheran Service Book*.

SCHOOL: St. John's Lutheran School provides a quality Christ-centered education for our congregation and community to make and equip disciples of Jesus Christ. We offer classes from pre-school through eighth grade. Our school building is located two blocks south of the church. For information about our school and enrollment please call our principal, Mrs. Deitt Schneider, at the office (282-3873).

DAY CARE: St. John's provides a quality Christian-based day care. The curriculum includes an emphasis on Christian instruction with the full intent of following Dr. Martin Luther's ideal of leading a child to grow in spirit, mind and body. Full and part-time care is available for children ages six weeks to six years. Before- and after-school child care also is offered.

Worship is Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8 & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Classes are Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

ELDER ZONES FOR 2017: (Chairman, Gerald Hanebutt)

Zone 1: Deborah Adams to Rodie Collins: Elder Ron Kunkelmann

Zone 2: Susan Conboy to Dennis/Kathy Grohmann: Elder Scot Heller

Zone 3: Randy/Deb Grohmann to Roger/Kim Herriman: Elder Alan Piel

Zone 4: Ryan Herriman to Travis/Erin Krick: Elder Mike DeRousse

Zone 5: Wil/Martha Krick to Janel Maes: Elder Kevin Liefer

Zone 6: Pat Malik to Harry/Dorothy Peters: Elder Jeremy Walker

Zone 7: Alan/Amber Piel to Don Schrader: Elder Gerald Hanebutt

Zone 8: Jeff/Dawn Schrader to Bob/Carol Turner: Elder John Tepe

Zone 9: Steve Uffelmann to Doug Zschiegner: Elder William Becker

GOODSEARCH:

When you use Goodsearch (www.goodsearch.com) for the benefit of St. John's Lutheran School as your computer search engine we get one cent!

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP GATHERING:

Program Facilitator Kathy Schmidt and , will present "" on Thursday, at 6:30 p.m. in the ground floor auditorium of Red Bud Hospital. All are welcomed to attend. Light refreshments will be served. No R.S.V.P. is required. Call Julie at 282-5456 for more information.

PARISH NURSE NOTE:

ISSUES, ETC.:

ST. JOHN'S BUSINESS YELLOW PAGES:

The new edition of the St. John's Business Yellow Pages is available on the table in the entryway. This is a first run copy. If you would like your business added to this edition, please contact the office so that we can include it in a larger, second issue. Thank you!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS OPPORTUNITIES:

Sunday: 9:30-10:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall, "Sermon-Writing" (Pastor Nebel)

Sunday: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. School Library, "Psalms: Lighthouse" (Pastor Koen)

Wednesdays: 9:30 a.m. FH (Women's) "Advanced Bible History" (D. Mueller)

Thursdays, 6:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall "To the Hebrews" (Pastor Nebel)

Thursdays: 8:15 a.m. FH (Women's) "To the Thessalonians" (Julie Fehr)

1st & 3rd Saturdays: FH, Men's Bible Breakfast "Angels" (Pastor Nebel)