

## ***This Week With Our Lord, December 31, 2017-January 7, 2018***

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

### **SUNDAY, December 31-**

**9:00 a.m.** Sunday School and Bible Classes

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

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

Greeters: The Nebel Family      Acolyte: Carolyne Mulherin

### **Monday, January 1- *New Year's Day***

**10:00 a.m.** New Year's Day Matins Service      Acolyte: Simone Liefer

Greeters: John & Norma Preston; Loren Harms & Lois Mesnarich

### **Tuesday, January 2-**

No Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting in the Fellowship Hall

### **Wednesday, January 3-**

No Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study with Doris Mueller in the FH

11:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting

6:30 p.m. Sunday School Teachers' meeting in the school library

7:30 p.m. Bible class in the Fellowship Hall (Numbers)

### **Thursday, January 4- *School Resumes for the Third Quarter***

6:30 a.m. Bible class in the Fellowship Hall (Hebrews)

8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study with Julie Fehr in the FH

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

### **Friday, January 5-**

### **Saturday, January 6-**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

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

Acolyte: Molly Ellner      Greeters: Harold and Deb Siegfried

### **SUNDAY, January 7-**

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

Acolyte: Michael Watters

Greeters: Ken and Joan Voges; Lisa Quinn

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service      Acolyte: Trace Wagner

Greeters: Bob and Arlene Pratt; Omer and Neva Liefer

Noon Senior Youth meeting in the church basement

### **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:** *LCMS Stewardship Resources*

Luke 2:39 "And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord. . ." The Law of God is good. Of course, it always shows us our sins; but that is good, too! We need to be driven back to the forgiveness of Christ. But the Law also shows us the truly blessed way to live – as Mary and Joseph found their joy in a godly life, so should we see the Law as a guide for Christian living, as the roadmap for saying thank you to the Lord for all His grace and mercy to us.

### **OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:**

Worship: 244; Intergenerational Sunday School/Bible Class: 21

Wednesday's Day School Christmas Service: AM- 282; PM- 650.

Christmas Eve Services: Worship-      Communion-

Christmas Day Service: Worship-      Communion-

*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: 12/24- General Fund: \$; School: \$; Debt Reduction: \$; Capital Campaign: \$; Teacher Planning Time Sub: \$. 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:**

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:**

Listen to "Children of Promise" (Galatians 4:4-7), with Guest Speaker Dr. Anthony Cook on KFUD 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:**

"The Conversion of Saul/Paul" (Acts 9:1-31)- As with Saul, so also with us. Through God's law, we are crushed by the weight of our sins and are helpless. God used His servant Ananias to bring Saul the gospel. Today, He uses our pastors with the proclamation of His Word and the administration of His Sacraments to grant us forgiveness, life and salvation.

### **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.

### **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. 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!

### **THANK YOU:**

From all the people with developmental disabilities across the country who are served by Bethesda's ministry, thank you to the members of St. John Lutheran Evening Guild for your gift of \$87.00! Your continued prayers and gifts of support are essential to our success and are greatly appreciated. For more information about how we are working together to make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities, visit us at:

[www.BethesdaIsLove.org](http://www.BethesdaIsLove.org) or [www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org](http://www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org).

**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

**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!:**

12/31- Reese Foster, Emma Guebert; 1/1- *Please call the office with corrections!*

**REFORMATION 500:**

Perhaps one of the very best places to catch that spirit of Reformation faith and fortitude is in the town of Schmalkalden in Thuringia. Luther visited this beautifully preserved medieval city many times. In February of 1537, he met with an association of sixteen Protestant princes sworn to uphold each other in their confession of faith. He prepared for the meeting in a room in the Saint George Church that now serves as a museum. The articles he presented to the assembly, known as the Smalcald Articles, are included in the Book of Concord as part of the Lutheran Confessions. Luther saw this work as his "last will and testimony" saying, "I have decided to publish these articles in plain print in case I should die before there would be a council." His preface to the work shows his sense of satisfaction that what he had hoped for in bringing his reforms to Germany had to some degree become a reality. He stated, "Our churches are now, through God's grace, enlightened and equipped with the pure Word and right use of the Sacraments, with knowledge of the various callings and right works." We thank God as heirs of so many dedicated and determined reformers, for the blessings we continue to receive as we make our Reformation journeys in these days.

**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 Tetzl 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.

**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](http://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 New Year! Christmas music and readings for the Sacred Season continue through Epiphany, and regular programming will resume January 2. Coming this January, KFUO will be unveiling a brand new website and new morning program schedule, including your favorite Oratio and Sharper Iron and adding daily chapel services and an exciting new morning program. Stay tuned!

**LIFE THOUGHTS:** *(from Lutherans for Life)*

Since God has come born of a woman under the law to redeem us (Galatians 4:4-5), neither age nor appearance nor ability nor any other illegitimacy will be able to separate us from the love of Christ (Romans 8:38-39) and the right to life as His children (Galatians 4:5-6). In this fullness of time, let us not keep silent nor stand still about it (Isaiah 62:1)! *Christ Jesus our Lord, raise us up as banners and lamps testifying to Your righteousness for us. 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](http://www.coslhs.org)

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education. Page 5



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](mailto:office@stjohnsredbud.org) Web address: [www.stjohnsredbud.org](http://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 (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) – Doreen Schnepel

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) - Michelle Hines

Eighth Grade Homeroom and Athletic Director (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) – 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 Russell Koen Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

(5 p.m.) Greeter: Miriam Poston Acolyte: Madison Falkenhain

(10:00 a.m.) Greeters: Larry and Cindy Ebers; Vernon and Evelyn Muench

Acolyte: Dylan Minemann

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](http://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: Lifelight" (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)  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays: FH, Men's Bible Breakfast "Angels" (Pastor Nebel)

**"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!