

This Week With Our Lord, November 25-December 2, 2018

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

SUNDAY, November 25-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:30 a.m. Adult/Youth Bible Classes; 2-8 Sunday School classes at school
9:30 a.m. Nursery-1st grade Sunday School service practice at church
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
Afternoon Decorating of the sanctuary for the holiday season

Monday, November 26-

6:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball A at Trinity, Prairie
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the church balcony
7:00 p.m. Sunday School teachers meet in school library

Tuesday, November 27-

12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
1:30 p.m. Holy Communion Service at Garden Place
5:30 p.m. Girls' Basketball, ABC, at Steeleville Public

Wednesday, November 28-

8:30 a.m. School Chapel service at church
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting at church
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Office staff meeting
3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grades Public School Confirmation
7:30 p.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall

Thursday, November 29- Epistle Articles needed in the church office!

6:30 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall
8:15 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Women's Advanced Bible History in FH
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony
6:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball, AC, vs. Red Bud Catholic

Friday, Nov. 30- Tournaments: Boys C at RBC; Girls A at Edwardsville

Saturday, December 1-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
Acolyte: Olivia Gerald Greeters: Harold and Deb Siegfried

SUNDAY, December 2-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Connor Jordan
Greeters: John & Norma Preston; Loren Harms & Lois Mesnarich
9:30 a.m. Adult/Youth Bible Classes; 2-8 Sunday School classes at school
9:30 a.m. Nursery-1st grade Sunday School service practice at church
10:30 a.m. Divine Service Acolyte: Hailey Proctor
Greeters: Ken & Karen Wetzell; Ron and Diane Kunkelmann
7:00 p.m. Road to Bethlehem Pageant and reception at church

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

Isaiah 51:6 – “For the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment.” The things of this earth that hold our attention, that cause us worry, that tempt us away from the Lord: they are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over, but rather to use for the Lord's purposes. The things of this world are not ends in and of themselves, but only means to be used wisely by the children of the Kingdom that has no end.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 374; Communion: 187; Adults/Youth: 50; Sunday School: 46

Thanksgiving Worship: 241 Communion: 195

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord!” Ps. 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: 11/18- General: \$8,451.47; School: \$555; Matching: \$11,254; Sunday School: \$25; Lutheran Witness- \$109; Senior Youth: \$1,220. Our expenses over income are \$152,801 through October. Our outstanding financial liabilities are \$1,311,449. *“The people shall not appear before their Lord empty-handed. Every one shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that He has given you.”* (Deuteronomy 16:16c-17)

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Logan Thomas Rainey into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the late service on Sunday. He is the son of Dak and Allison (Deterding) Rainey. His baptismal sponsors are Gary Liefer and Valerie Liefer. Thanks be to God for His gift of new life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

Listen to “Birth Pains” (Mark 13:1-37) with Speaker Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUO AM 850 Sunday at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. (KSIV 1320 AM or 91.5 FM).

“DOWN WITH THE DEBT”:

A generous matching gift offer has been given to us. From now until December 16 we can have our special gifts, over and above our regular offerings, matched up to \$100,000. This will help lower the building and operating debt that we continue to carry. While worship offerings during 2018 are 7% higher than in 2017, our expenses are running 8% higher than last year. This is on top of previous years' operating shortfalls and what is still left to pay from the church remodeling and school expansion project. Due to current budget constraints, we have ceased our monthly loan repayments for the rest of 2018. Please consider making a gift toward this matching fund by mailing it to the church office (noted “Down With the Debt”) or using a blue envelope (baskets in the entryway) to put into the offering plate during worship. \$42,939 so far has been received. Thank you!

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 in the bulletin of those donating.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

+”The Bronze Serpent”- Our Old Testament quarter ends with the story of snakes whose deadly bite was reversed for the Israelites by God as they looked at the bronze serpent He had Moses put on a pole. Today we look to God's Son, Jesus Christ, on the cross for healing from our spiritually and eternally deadly bite of sin.

+Practice for the Sunday School Christmas Service will be held at the church for 3 year olds through First Grade on Sundays, November 25, December 2, and December 9 during the Sunday School hour. Please bring your child to the church by 9:25 a.m. The service will be held on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m. in the church.

+Please consider sending an offering with your child to help cover the cost of materials and to support our mission project for the year (still to be determined).

ADULT BIBLE CLASS OPPORTUNITIES: (*Fellowship Hall unless noted*)

Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. "Ecclesiastes" (Pastor Nebel)

Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. "The 95 Theses" (Pastor Koen- school library)

Men's Bible Breakfast, 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 7 a.m. "Angels" (Pastor Nebel)

Wednesday Women, 9:30 a.m. "Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply" (J. Fritsche)

Wednesday Sundown, 7:30 p.m. "Deuteronomy" (Pastor Nebel)

Early Bird Thursdays, 6:30 a.m. "1st Corinthians" (Pastor Nebel)

Thursday Mornings, 8:15 a.m. "Proverbs" (Julie Fehr)

Thursday Ladies, 9:30 a.m. "Advanced Bible History" (Doris Mueller)

ROAD TO BETHLEHEM:

Sunday, December 2, at 7 p.m. will be our annual Road to Bethlehem pageant. Pre-service begins at 6:30 p.m. with our Bell Choir. School children in grades 2-4 will sing. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the pageant.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

Sun 2 7 p.m. Road to Bethlehem Pageant at church

Wed 5 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas Service

Sun 9 6 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service at church

Wed 12 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Primary School Christmas

Thu 13 3 p.m. Holy Communion Service at church

Wed 19 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Day School Christmas

SCHOOL LIBRARY VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

The school's library needs your help beginning November 20!! Please consider helping on Tuesday mornings and afternoons. The first shift is from 8:15-9 a.m. At this time the helper will pick up books from the lower grade classrooms and check them in. Some computer work is involved. The second shift is from 1-2:30 p.m. There are two classes that come into the library and will be checking out books. Please let Mr. Becker know if you are willing to help! Thanks!!

CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND:

Every year a committee of volunteers does a great job of decorating our church building for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Some new items are purchased every year. However, there is no money left in that account. If you would like to help in this way, please contact the office or put an envelope in the offering marked "Christmas Decorations." Thank you!

ELDER CHRISTMAS BASKETS:

Our Board of Elders will deliver Christmas baskets to our nursing home, Garden Place and homebound members on Saturday, December 8. If you have a name to add to the list or would like to contribute to this project, please contact our office.

THE POINSETTIA GARDEN:

We thank the Altar Guild for doing this 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 the Poinsettia Garden forms in the back of church in the Epistle basket. The cost is \$7.00 and you may return it to the office or by way of the offering basket by Tuesday, December 11. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS:

Red Bud High School senior and St. John's member Brittany Pensoneau was the student of the month for Red Bud High School in October. This program is sponsored by the Red Bud Lions Club.

FOOD DRIVE:

A donation box for the Red Bud Food Pantry at Human Service Center is in the entryway and Fellowship Hall for your contributions of non-perishable food.

THANK YOU:

+Thank you to everyone who attended, supported and assisted with our annual Wurstmarkt on November 11. We served over 550 meals. We will be able to use the proceeds to benefit Lutheran ministries here and around the world. *Men's Club*

+ "My sincere thanks for all the prayers, cards, hugs, memorials, flowers and expressions of sympathy given to me and my family following the loss of my mother, Evelyn Borrenpohl Luehrs. Jesus says (John 11:25), 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.'" *God's peace, Deitt Schneider*

+ "We offer our sincerest appreciation for your recent gift of \$637. We rejoice especially for the fellowship that your contribution represents. Thank you for the privilege of participating in changing hearts and saving lives. We look forward to future opportunities for cooperation." *Rev. Michael Salemink, Lutherans for Life*

+ "Thank you so much for your gifts to the Seminary Food Bank! Our family has been so blessed by the food bank during our time here. Your generosity has a huge impact on seminarians and their families." *The Tremdenburg Family*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

11/25- Grace Richards; 11/26- Willie Uffelmann, Jr. Aliyah Cox; 11/27- Diane Stenzel, Nancy Jones, Sandra Mehner, Brayden McCarthy; 11/28- Karen Buch, Kenneth Wetzel, Brandon Hick, Cailee Strong, Brody Stellhorn, Jackson Neff; 11/29- Bunny Schnepel, Wayne Voss, Melonie Bollinger, Alex Hamilton, Athena Wolfmeier; 11/30- Randy Burgdorf, Ryan Valleroy, Addison Gunter, Drew Kueker, Hazel Veath; 12/1- Leonard Vogt, Erin Cox. *Please contact the office with corrections!*

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).

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Virginia Bahr, Alvin Moeller, Clifford Stellhorn, Willard Uffelmann, Wilma Wagner and Jody Winkelmann; New Athens- Eunice Stumpf; Waterloo Garden Place- Alice Smith

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Melba Liefer, Vernon and Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Dr. Paul Schrieber, and Wilma Stellhorn.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY CONFINED IN-HOME:

Nancy Holmstrom, Joyce Lopez, Edna Moeller, Leonard and Norma Vogt.

PARISH NURSE NOTE:

Please stop by our table in the Fellowship Hall and let us check your blood pressure for you. A stroke is largely preventable by living a healthy lifestyle. This includes controlling high blood pressure, not smoking, eating a diet low in saturated and trans fats, being physically active, keeping body weight down, managing diabetes, and no to low alcohol use.

NEW LAMP POSTS IN FRONT OF CHURCH:

Two new lamp posts have been installed in front of church. They are a gift to the congregation in loving memory of St. John's member Norb Kassing from his family. Thank you for this gift and to those who worked to install them!

RED BUD VFW POST 6632 & AUXILIARY PATRIOT'S PEN AWARDS:

The Patriot's Pen essay contest is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in public, home-schooled, private or parochial schools. The theme for this year's essay was "Why I Honor the American Flag." There were a total of 97 entries First place winner is Karson Liefer, a 6th grader in St. John's Lutheran. Karson's first place entry was submitted to the VFW District 14 for judging and the winner will be announced on December 8 at the Patriot's Pen/Voice of Democracy banquet to be held at the Millstadt VFW. Congratulations to all the entrants. We appreciate all the teachers and helpers at the schools, and parents, for taking time in your busy schedules to promote our contests.

JOYFULLY LUTHERAN: Not pie-in-the-sky make-believe joy, but real joy

Faith is not an escape from the realities of this world. Joy comes not from pretending sin, evil and death don't exist, but from trusting in God to conquer these things on our behalf and to deliver us from them. We suffer from the effects of sin, both the sins we ourselves commit and the sins that others commit, and we deserve only punishment. Joy is found in the promises of God in Christ to deliver us through forgiveness to the life of the world to come, where there will be no more sin, death, suffering or pain. Christ suffered and will never leave us in our suffering. In Him we have joy. Find out more at joyfullylutheran.org.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND ASSISTANCE:

+Kate Snyder, daughter-in-law of St. John's member Eunice Snyder, has been fighting a brain tumor for ten years, with surgery as recently as April 16. Due to a possible brain stem stroke, her recovering has been very slow. She has been making progress but is completely dependent for all mobility and needs more rehab therapy. Currently at home, she is too young for Medicare. Please pray for her and donate, if able, to at <https://www.gofundme.com/care-for-kate>. Thank you!

+David Ingwersen, a former St. John's teacher, is set to retire after many years serving in Lutheran education. In January 2017 his wife, Kim, was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Her condition has greatly deteriorated to the point where it is difficult for her to do many daily tasks, and with ALS, there is no cure. Things that we take for granted have become something she cannot do alone. In June, Dave will retire from his career in Lutheran Education and become her full time caretaker. These past two years have been incredibly difficult, but they have faced this challenge with amazing faith and a willingness to simply enjoy the days that they have left. There are so many things that insurance companies won't cover. Below is a link to a GoFundMe page that her kids have established. Any amount given would be greatly appreciated. <https://www.gofundme.com/generous-gift-for-kim-and-dave?fbclid=IwARISzHx73GKVMNsmu55XKBpMxD1S-QLDpbq8bm5rYMq9rOuohe3wZqpese0>

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:

St. John Lutheran School PTL in Chester will hold a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (soup and sandwich lunch begins at 10:30 a.m.) in its Parish Hall at 302 W. Holmes Street. Many vendors will have items for sale.

COOKIE WALK:

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Trinity Lutheran Church in Millstadt will hold a Christmas Cookie Walk on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. Homemade cookies will be sold by the pound (\$10 for mixed; \$11 for fancy). Call Shirley at 618/476-1113 to order in advance.

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

Listen to Worldwide KFUE AM850, your radio station for news, talk, and sacred music with a Lutheran worldview. This week on KFUE AM850, we talk with Deaconess Heidi Goehmann about Divine Calls and the Ministry Family on The Coffee Hour (11/27 at 9:00 a.m.), continue in the new Sharper Iron series "The New Covenant" on 2 Corinthians 3-7:1 with Rev. Jonathan Fisk and guest pastors (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), an study more of the book of Revelation on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.). Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville. You can listen to Lutheran experts discuss topics like: The Advent Season, The Fourth Commandment & the Boy Jesus in the Temple, The Movie "Fantastic Beasts," The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

LIFE THOUGHTS: (from *Lutherans for Life*)

The guilt of our sins cannot hold back our Lord's angels from gathering His chosen ones at His return (Mark 13:27). Neither can any age, appearance, infirmity or inability stand in the way of His love for us. *Faithful God, let there be nothing in us to get in the way of our beholding Your glory when Jesus returns for us. Amen.*

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL 618-853-7300

FFA Fundraiser: The COS FFA is selling beef sticks and summer sausage from now until December 4. Contact FFA advisor Lisa Luebkekmann at enroll@coslhs.org if you would like to make a purchase.

Toy & Food Drive: The COS Student council is holding a toy and food drive as well as adopting a needy family. If you would like to help by donating non-perishable food items and/or a new toy please drop your donation off at COS. Toys may also be dropped off at Dollar General in Waterloo.

Help us promote COS: Stop by COS and pick up a free yard sign to put in your yard or business.

The End of Year Giving Campaign for COS has started. If you have already sent in your gift, thank you! If you have not yet had an opportunity, you can do so in whatever form of giving you feel most comfortable, whether that be a mailed check or online via our website or Facebook. The campaign will end on #GivingTuesday, November 27, which is an international day of online giving.

Calling Thrivent Members: If you are a member of Thrivent and are willing to help COS at no cost to you, please consider organizing or participating in a Thrivent Action Team. Each Thrivent member is eligible to lead two project teams per year. Every project team is given up to \$250 along with organizational materials to help make their project successful. We have many projects that would help further the mission of COS. We can even help you fill out the application. Contact mchristman@coslhs.org for more information.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education. Page 7



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; 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 Stephanie Valleroy

First Grade – Rachel Miller

Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Lauri Koen

Fourth Grade– Bill Becker (Librarian) and Cindy Nebel (Before/After School Care)

Fifth Grade - Darlene Letcher

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

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Nancy Whelan

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

Custodians – Loren Harms, Alan Ohms, and Bob Schramm

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle; Resource Teacher – Laura Vahse

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 Guttman, Samantha Yankey, Gerry Thompson, Morgan Woosley, Terra Williams, Melissa Schilling, Patricia Brewer, Monica Kunkel, Kristi Martel and Courtney Schoenbeck

Church Council

Chairman: Gary Buatte Vice-Chairman: Dale Krack

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Kara Wagner Board of Finance: Ben Guebert

Elder Chair: Gerald Hanebutt Parish Education Chair: Jamie Korando

Trustee Chair: Scott Voss Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Lisa Quinn and Kathy Valleroy

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher: Pastor Mark Nebel Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Russell Koen

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

(5 p.m.) Greeters: Virginia and Mark Moeller Acolyte: Chloe Cowell

(8:00 a.m.) Greeters: Wil and Martha Krick; Cindy Steele

Acolyte: Tori Muench

(10:30 a.m.) Greeters: Ron and Donna Burgdorf

Acolyte: Emme Deterding

Flower Servers: Darla Cowell and Alverda Rahn

Chancel Paraments: Virginia Moeller Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Red Bud, Illinois

Last Sunday of the Church Year 2018

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.

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!

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 Cor. 9:6-7).

THE BIRDHOUSE VERSION OF OUR CHURCH BUILDING:

The Rotary Club of Red Bud is pleased to include St. John's Lutheran Church as part of their second series of Red Bud collectible mini birdhouses. These birdhouses are approximately 3.5" x 3.5" x 5". Other buildings in this new series are: Market-On-Main, Ziebold Building and Kutting Edge. The Birdhouses are \$27.50 each or the collection of all 4 or combination of any 4 is \$100. All profits from this fundraiser are used to fund the Rotary Club of Red Bud's local and international projects. To order a St. John's one for \$25, call our office or for a complete set of the four call Dian Keil at 618-604-2284 or email birdhouse62278@outlook.com.

"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!

ELDER ZONES FOR 2018: (Chairman, Gerald Hanebutt)

Zone 1: Deborah Adams thru Rodie Collins- Elder Ron Kunkelmann

Zone 2: Susan Conboy thru Dennis/Kathy Grohmann- Elder Stuart Langrehr

Zone 3: Nick/Emily Grohmann thru 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 Lanie Pensoneau- Elder Quentin Stenzel

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

Zone 8: Jeff/Dawn Schrader to Bob/Carol Turner- Elder Stanley Langrehr

Zone 9: Derek/Katelin Uffelmann to Doug Zschiegner- Elder Bill Becker

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

ESTATE FUND ASSISTANCE:

Our Estate Fund Committee has money available to assist with the Christian Education of St. John's members who are pursuing a church professional career and attending one of our seminaries or Concordia universities, as well as money to help those who attending a Lutheran high school. Please realize that this help is available as you consider your career and educational choices.

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!

DONOR TILE WALL IN THE NEW GYM LOBBY:

There are a few more spaces available in the Donor Tile Wall in the lobby of the new gym at school. Please call the school office (282-3873) if you would like to reserve a space in the next run of tiles. The cost is \$400.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE:

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

BUILDING KEYS:

Anyone who had a reason to have keys for our church or school buildings in the past but does not have a reason to have those keys any longer, please return them to our office so that those who now do need a key can be issued one.

CHURCH LIBRARY:

"Joyfully Lutheran" is in The Book Nook of the Fellowship Hall. It is a message to the Church about the challenges we face and how we are to face them. It is authored by our LCMS president, Dr. Matthew Harrison. Pick up a book, take it home to read, and bring it back. We are on the honor system here at St. John's!

+Check our website under the Media tab for Bible studies that you can do on your own. The topics so far are Angels, Cremation, Christian Citizenship, The Justice of God, Haggai, Purses, Was Jesus a Vegetarian?, Baptism Q & A, Discussing Homosexuality, Word Dwellers, Heaven, God's Will in the Lives of His People, Communications Skills, Having the Right Attitude, Live By the Spirit, Malachi, Philemon, and more to come!

STUDENT EXCHANGE HOST NEEDED:

Would you host a foreign exchange student for 3 or 4 months during the 2018-2019 school year? The Red Bud Rotary Club is seeking two families who live in Red Bud school district to host a high school student for January through mid April and mid-April through mid-July. Please contact Dian Keil at 618-604-2284 or dian1212@live.com for more information.

WORSHIP GREETERS NEEDED:

There are openings 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!

EVENT REMINDERS ON YOUR CELL PHONES:

Remind Me.com is a free system that will allow us to send text messages to you reminding you of what is happening in our family of faith here at St. John's. However, it does not allow for group discussions so that there will not be continued unwanted messages from anyone in the group receiving the text. To join this remind system for St. John's, simply text the message @2h9de to the number 81010. Please contact our office at 282-2394 with your questions.

