

This Week With Our Lord, December 1-8, 2019

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

SUNDAY, December 1-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School at school; Adult & Youth Bible Classes in the FH
10:30 a.m. Divine Service
Noon Senior Youth meeting at church
Afternoon Decorating of the church for the Christmas season
6:30 p.m. Adult Instruction Class in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 2-

6:00 p.m. Nominating Committee meeting in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Boys Basketball C team game
7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school music room

Tuesday, December 3-

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Circuit Pastors' Conference at Christ, Jacob
12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Evening Guild Christmas Party and Dinner in Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Girls' Basketball at St. John Lutheran in Chester

Wednesday, December 4-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Christmas service in the school's old gym
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting at church
9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall (J. Fritsche)
7:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grades Public School Confirmation
10:50 a.m. Office Staff meeting
7:00 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas service in the school's old gym
7:45 p.m. Board of Parish Education meeting

Thursday, December 5-

6:30 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (2 Corinthians)
8:15 a.m. Women's Bible Class in Fellowship Hall (J. Fehr)
9:30 a.m. Women's Advanced Bible History in Fellowship Hall
1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin
6:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball A & C at home vs. St. Mark's Lutheran

Friday, December 6-

Girls' Basketball A team tournament at Edwardsville
Boys' Basketball C team tournament at Red Bud Catholic

Saturday, December 7-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
9:00 a.m. Elder basket deliveries
5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion (Adult Confirmation)
Acolyte: Morgan Kent Greeters: Harold and Deb Siegfried

SUNDAY, Dec. 8-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Aliyah Cox
Greeters: Wil and Martha Krick; Cindy Steele & Olivia Schmitz
9:30 a.m. Sunday School at school; Adult and Youth Bible Class in the FH
10:30 a.m. Divine Service Acolyte: Zandra Harless
Greeters: Bob and Arlene Pratt; Omer and Neva Liefer
5:00 p.m. Adult Instruction Class in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Road to Bethlehem Pageant and Reception at church

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP READINGS

OT: Isaiah 11:1-10; Epistle: Romans 15:4-13; Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12 Page 2

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

+Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the wedding of Kyle and Laney (Austin) Liefer which took place here on Saturday. Thank you and God's blessings on their married life!

+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.

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Clarke Elizabeth Thien into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the late service on Sunday. She is the daughter of Erick and Megan (Grohmann) Thien. Her baptismal sponsors are Nick and Emily Grohmann, Abbey Thien and Evan Thien. Thanks be to God for His gift of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

EPISTLES:

The December edition of our congregation's monthly newsletter, *The Epistle*, is in paper copy in the entryway. It also is on our website and has been emailed to all for whom Pastor Nebel has an email address.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

We are not always who we say we are. What you say to yourself about yourself may or may not be what's true. Dr. Michael Zeigler says, "Enough with the self-talk!" Who does God say you are? You'll find that you are worse than you thought, and yet, more loved than you could ever imagine. Listen to "Enough with the Self-talk" (Luke 18:9-14) with Speaker Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUE 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).

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 354; Communion: 76; Adult/Youth: 14+; Sunday School: 58

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to 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. 11/24- General Fund: \$23,628.88; Automatic Giving: \$3300; School: \$565; Debt: \$100; Elder Baskets: \$100; Lutheran Witness: \$18. *"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).

2020 WORK PLAN:

Our budgeted expenses for Christian ministry here in our family of faith at St. John's for 2020 is \$1,563,873.81. Due largely to staffing changes that have and will take place this figure is \$65,640.28 below our 2019 Work Plan. This includes going from 92% to 93% of Southern Illinois District scale for our professional staff salaries. Thank you for our support of this ministry plan!

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

Please see Doreen Schnepel in the Fellowship Hall between services and after late service to purchase gift cards for the holiday season. A percentage of each purchase assists the ministry of our family of faith. Cash and checks only please.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!:

We thank the members of our Parent-Teacher League for their generous support of our congregation's ministry. In its November 13th meeting the PTL approved a \$75,000 donation to the congregation. Page 3

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: *LCMS Stewardship Resources*

Matthew 21:3 – “If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: it is a blessing *to us* to be of service in the Lord’s kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals.

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH:

We welcome Mr. Larry Schleifer into our family of faith as a communicant member of St. John’s through Profession of Faith.

MITES FOR MISSIONS:

Based on the Biblical account of the widow’s mite, the Mite Box is intended for regular contribution of ‘mites’ – offerings above and beyond regular support. Many Lutheran Women in Mission have used the Mite Box to gather funds in support of national, district and local ministries. We invite everyone to contribute to the Mite Box, providing the opportunity for us to spread the Gospel to the World. Extra Mite Boxes are on table in narthex. Place your contributions in the large LWML Mite Box.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

+This week in our Christian education time, we study “A Divided Kingdom.” Solomon’s heir, Rehoboam, ignored the pleas of the people to lighten their load; instead, he threatened to make their workload even more difficult. Angered by his response, ten tribes of Israel make Jeroboam their leader, leaving Rehoboam to lead only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin in Jerusalem, where the temple was. As a family, discuss how the division of the kingdom affected the worship life of the people. Ask, “How could dividing yourself from church affect your worship life?”

+*Perfect Attendance for November-* Nursery: Blakelynn Grohmann, Jettson Grohmann; Pre-Kindergarten: Brewer Krick, Maggie Kuehn, Elsie Liefer, Layla Meyer, Liza Wagner, Brinley Wolter; Kindergarten: Blake Horrell, Connor Liefer, Cassidy Palm, Henry Schnepel; 1st Grade: Aiden Arbeiter, Alexa Cheek, Maybre Falkenhain, Natalie Kassing, Sydney Krick, Lucy Kuehn, Holden Wagner; 2nd Grade: Amelia Cheek, Jozlynn Palm; 4th Grade: Mallory Arbeiter, Sydney Kassing, Molly Kuehn, Norah Wagner; 6th Grade: Noah Kassing; 7th Grade: Bruce Quinn, Sam Roscow, Daniel Stapleton. Thank you for your participation in and your faithfulness to our Sunday School ministry!

PARENTS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS:

On Sundays, December 1, 8, and 15, preschool through 1st grade Sunday School students will meet in the church to practice our Christmas Service. We will begin practice at 9:25 a.m. and dismiss from there at 10:15 a.m. The Christmas service will be held on Sunday, December 15, at 6 p.m. at the church. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Liefer at 618-830-0481. Thank you.

ELDER BASKETS:

Our Board of Elders will deliver their annual Christmas gift baskets to our homebound and nursing home members on the morning of Saturday, December 7. If you would like to contribute to this project, please put an envelope marked “Elder Baskets” in the offering or mail/bring it to the office. Thank you! [Page 4](#)

LWML AND GIVING TUESDAY:

Lutheran Women in Mission is reaching out to a world in need of the Gospel through mission grants. You have the opportunity to help reach others with the saving Word of Jesus. On the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, **Giving Tuesday**, December 3, you may donate toward the 2019–2021 LWML Mission Grants by using LWML Facebook, lwml.org/givingtuesday. Your donation will be doubled on that day thanks to the commitment of two generous donors. You can HELP by sharing on Giving Tuesday. (If unable to donate online, you may send your contributions to the LWML office at 801 Seminary Place Suite L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Please note Giving Tuesday with your contribution.)

EVENING GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY:

On Tuesday, December 3 at 6 p.m. there will be a potluck dinner with games and fellowship in our Fellowship Hall. Please bring a covered dish. Fried chicken will be provided by our Evening Guild. Husbands and other guests are welcome. Instead of gift exchange a collection for Bethesda Home and mites will be collected. Please R.S.V.P. to Sharon Guebert 282-6468.

DRIVE FOR FOOD PANTRY AT HUMAN SERVICE CENTER:

Our Evening Guild is sponsoring a food drive for our congregation to help the local food pantry at Human Service Center. A donation box will be in the entryway or Fellowship Hall. We appreciate donations of nonperishable items!

USHERS NEEDED:

We welcome anyone to assist with our worship services as an usher. You will be part of a team that serves three months at a time and then is off for a year. See Head Usher Scot Heller or Pastor Nebel if you are interested.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT:

The Southern Illinois District Lutheran Emergency Response Team is the mission project for our Sunday School students this year. Ten percent of their offering will go to support this ministry of assistance to those who have suffered from fire, flood, wind, etc. We hope to have a trained team from St. John’s at some point in the future.

ALUMNI NEWS:

+The recent edition of the St. John’s Lutheran School *Alumni News* is available on the tables in the entryway for those who do not get it in the mail.

+An Alumni Dinner is being planned for Saturday, February 29, at 6:30 p.m. It will be a “Lutheran Educated Alumni Party for You, Everyone and All to Rejoice.” More information to come.

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. If you would like to serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please call Vickie at 618/521-7417. 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).

SAVE THE DATE FOR SPECIAL SERVICES:

December 4- 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Early Childhood Christmas in school gym
December 8- 7 p.m. Road to Bethlehem Pageant in the church
December 11- 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Primary School Christmas in school gym
December 15- 6:00 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service at church [Page 5](#)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY CONFINED IN-HOME:

Don and Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Donald Kueker, June Lawrence, Joyce Lope, Jean Menke, Edna Moeller, Elda Seders.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Virginia Bahr, Melba Liefer, Wilma Wagner and Jody Winkelmann; Waterloo Garden Place- Alice Smith; Ruma R & R- Fern Schnepel, Willard Uffelmann

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Vernon and Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Dr. Paul Schrieber, Gloria Stellhorn, Wilma Stellhorn, Leonard & Norma Vogt.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

12/1- Erin Cox, Leonard Vogt; 12/2- Rosemary Collins, Jill Gross, Wiley Minemann, Carmen Nichols, Derrick Voss; 12/3- Pam Buatte; 12/4- Kathy Dannenberg, Karson Liefer, Kristopher Williams; 12/5- Patty Salger; 12/6- Riley Candler, Scot Heller, Jack Valentine, Todd Wagner; 12/7- Brandy Crafton, Claire Doeding, Kayla Kelley, Sage Pensoneau, Elizabeth Unnerstall, Erica Unnerstall, Andrea Voss. *Please call the office for additions or corrections!*

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 KFUE AM850, the broadcast arm of the LCMS, as we share Christ for you anytime, anywhere via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! **This week on KFUE AM850**, we wish you a blessed Advent! Hear the Coffee Hour Choir demonstrate how to simply go Christmas Caroling this season (12/4 at 9:00 a.m.), begin the book of 1 Thessalonians on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), and worship with us in chapel service from the LCMS International Center (weekdays at 10:00 a.m.). Find programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

LIFE THOUGHTS: (from *Lutherans for Life*) www.lutheransforlife.org

Some call “sexual liberation” and “individual autonomy” progress. But abortion and assisted suicide show how serving flesh and self enslaves only to death. “[S]alvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed” (Romans 13:11b). Jesus draws and drives us toward a better hope: forgiveness, resurrection, everlasting life, Kingdom of heaven. Real progress means trusting the Word of the Lord and receiving even the least of these as precious neighbors.

PARISH NURSE NOTE: from *LCMS Better Health*

Overall, the average entrée and side eaten together at a fast food restaurant account for nearly 40% of a 2,000-calorie daily diet. This does not include the soda that often goes along with this meal. Plan other menus that day to be healthier in order to offset the extra calories consumed at a fast food restaurant.

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! Page 6

COOKIE WALKS:

+A Cookie Walk and Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to noon at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 522 S. Church St., in Waterloo. Cookies and candies of all kinds will be available. The cost is \$7.50 per pound. Several vendors and crafters will be available for you to do some shopping.

+A Cookie Walk will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Millstadt on Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. Sold by the pound for \$10 mixed and \$11 fancy. Advance orders taken by calling Shirley at 618/476-1113.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:

The Auxiliary of the Concordia Historical Institute will hold its Christmas Luncheon on Thurs., Dec. 12 at noon in Koburg Hall on the seminary campus in Clayton, MO. Meet and greet new or renewed acquaintances, hear the Village Lutheran Homeschool Handbell Choir, enjoy singing Christmas carols, and receive an update on CHI. The cost is \$15 per person, with reservations to be made by December 5. Checks may be made payable to "CHI Auxiliary" and sent to Nancy Fassold, 5609 Nantasket Court, St. Louis, MO 63128. For more information, please contact her at 314-843-3559 or nk21@live.com.

ELDER ZONES FOR 2019: (Chairman, Kevin Liefer)

- Zone 1: D. Adams thru R. Collins- Elder Ron Kunkelmann (282-3504)
- Zone 2: S. Conboy thru D/K Grohmann- Elder Stuart Langrehr (282-2736)
- Zone 3: N/E Grohmann thru R/K Herriman- Elder Jacob Arbeiter (618/615-1108)
- Zone 4: R. Herriman thru T/E Krick- Elder Adam Guebert (618/920-2403)
- Zone 5: Wil/Martha Krick thru Janel Maes- Elder Kevin Liefer (618/521-9126)
- Zone 6: Pat Malik thru Lanie Pensoneau- Elder Quentin Stenzel (282-4661)
- Zone 7: A/A Piel thru Don Schrader- Elder Garon Schnepel (813/240-8978)
- Zone 8: J/D Schrader thru B/C Turner- Elder Stanley Langrehr (282-3481)
- Zone 9: D/K Uffelmann thru Doug Zschiegner- Elder Bill Becker (282-2958)

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL 618-853-7300

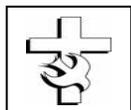
Toy & Food Drive: Student Council is sponsoring a toy & food drive to benefit area needy families. You may bring your donation of new unwrapped toys or non-perishable food *COS* anytime during school hours by December 6.

#GivingTuesday: If you make a gift to *COS* through Facebook using the #GivingTuesday donation link on December 3. Facebook will match the donation starting at 7:00 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis until \$7 million in eligible donations are made on Facebook. Facebook will cover the processing fees so 100% of your donation will go to support *COS*. Of course, you may make a gift at any time by mailing a check or by using the link on our website www.coslhs.org.

WIX Tops for FFA: If you use WIX oil filters, please save the box tops with the bar code and turn them into the office or give them to a *COS* FFA member. The *COS* FFA chapter can turn them in and receive a donation.

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 elauffer@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

First Grade – Rachel Miller; Aide- Patty Schnepel

Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade – Bill Becker (Librarian)

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

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

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

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

Resource Teacher: Lara Vause

Custodians – Alan Ohms, Bob Schramm and Becky Rhodes

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Jennifer Pfannebecker,

Lisa Quinn, Pam Henry, Nicole Kadlec, Eileen Seibold, Christy Deterding, Heidi

Guttman, Gerry Thompson, Melissa Schilling, Patricia Brewer, Kristi Martel,

Courtney Schoenbeck, Megan Diercks, Mary Novy, Terra Williams and Jessica Hoffman

Church Council

Chairman: Bruce Schneider Vice-Chairman: Ray Wagner

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Gary Buatte Board of Finance: Ben Guebert

Elder Chair: Kevin Liefer Parish Education Chair: Miriam Poston

Trustee Chair: John Preston Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Lisa Quinn and Kathy Valleroy

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher: Pastor Russell Koen Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist: Mrs. Joan Ruwald

(5 p.m.) Greeter: Miriam Poston Acolyte: Kerrigan Zeiger

(8:00 a.m.) Greeters: Milton and Mary Ann Weber; Clyde and Kathy Rowold

Acolyte: Noah Kassing

(10:30 a.m.) Greeters: Cindy Ebers; Vernon and Evelyn Muench

Acolyte: Chloe Cowell

Flower Servers: Debbie Liefer and Alverda Rahn

Chancel Paraments: Irma Birkner Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Red Bud, Illinois

The First Sunday in Advent 2019

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.

+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!

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.

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.

"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!

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!

PAYMENTS ON FAST DIRECT:

Fast Direct now allows you to make payments online directly from Fast Direct using your credit or debit card! Simply log in, select Finance from the top of the page. You will add your credit or debit card info in the "wallet" section. Once that has been completed you can go to "make a payment". Be sure to select which account you want to make the payment to...tuition, lunch, daycare, After school care, etc. We are very excited about this new feature, but like always please call the office if you have any questions at all!!

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include:

Signal Hill Counseling- *A Family sharing Christ!*

Rev. Mark D. Wiesner, MDiv, MS (Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist)

8100 West Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62223

Office: (618) 397-1407 Emergency: (618) 444-1800

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, text the message @8243ad2 to the number 81010. Please contact our office at 282-2394 with your questions.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION CHANGES:

New labels soon will appear on participating products. Instead of clipping labels you will scan your receipt and use a new Box Tops mobile app that instantly will add those Box Tops points to our school's earnings. The traditional Box Tops still can be clipped and cash earned until they expire. Learn more at BTFE.COM/SNEAKPEEK or look at the sheet on the board by the glass door.