

# The Epistle

## DECEMBER 2025

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

**Church: 508 Bloom Street  
618/282-2394**

**School: 808 South Main Street  
618/282-3873  
618-282-4087 (fax)**

**[office@stjohnsredbud.org](mailto:office@stjohnsredbud.org)  
[www.stjohnsredbud.org](http://www.stjohnsredbud.org)**

**Worship: Saturdays at 5 p.m.**

**Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.**

**Christian Education Hour:**

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

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

*Rev. Mark Winkelman, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Brian Nowak, Associate Pastor*

*Mrs. Lindsey Hudak, Director of Parish Music*

*Mr. Justin Palm, Principal*

*Mr. William Becker, Director of Christian Education*

*Mrs. Amanda Falkenhain, Daycare Director*

### **From Lutheran Hour Ministries**

*The things that have been fulfilled among us. Luke 1:1*

#### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:**

Advent reminds us of all God has fulfilled in Christ's coming to this earth, all He fulfills now through Word and Sacrament, and all to be fulfilled until, and when, Jesus comes again. He continues to fulfill His purposes among us and through us.

#### **THE JOURNEY—DAY 1**

Bill Wood and his wife, Julie, strolled across the parking lot after Sunday worship. The pastor had spoken about God's fulfilled, and yet to be fulfilled, work in this world. He gave the church members an "Advent Challenge"— "to give somebody the gift of Jesus for Christmas." These words kept ringing in Bill's ears: "Do you know someone who doesn't believe in Jesus?"

Bill thought about all God had fulfilled in his life—salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and his place in God's family. He had been raised in a Christian home. He met Julie at a campus ministry in college. They had two children. He felt so blessed.

Now he was thinking about things to be fulfilled Jesus' coming on the Last Day, the mission of taking the Gospel to all people, and every Christian witnessing about Jesus to unchurched and unbelieving people. Bill had not thought much about these things. Now he had

been challenged "to give somebody the gift of Jesus for Christmas."

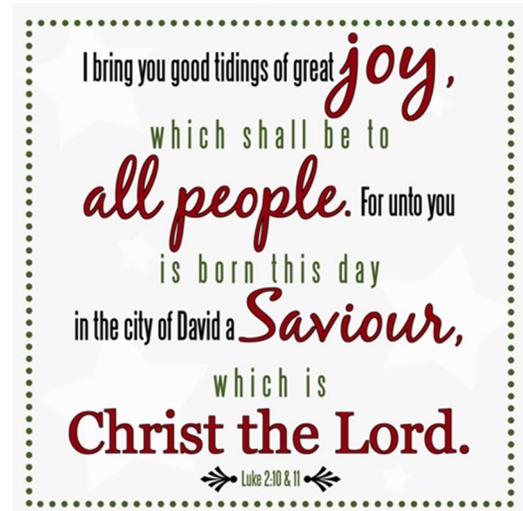
Bill wondered, "Can I do this?" He pondered, "Shouldn't everybody have a life fulfilled in Jesus? Who do I know ...?" Just then, Bill's 14-year-old son, Sam, came across the parking lot exclaiming, "Where are we going for lunch?!"

#### **REALITY JOURNEY:**

Do you know someone who doesn't believe in Jesus as Savior, or has fallen away from the church? Take the "Advent Challenge" to give him or her the gift of Jesus for Christmas.

#### **PRAYER FOCUS:**

Pray for God to open doors for you to speak the Gospel message of Christ to that person.



#### **FROM PASTOR MARK**

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"*

*Isaiah 9:6a*

There is great joy and excitement when a baby is born. Leading up to the birth there may be parties, announcements, pictures, and lots of preparations. And we know that the preparation is only the beginning, for once the child is born, then the real celebration begins. First, in the hospital with visitors, balloons, stuffed animals, etc.; then once home, everyone comes to welcome the child and brings gifts, many more pictures are taken and shared far and wide. The good news is spread all around. It's a wonderful time filled with love and joy that overflows to all who encounter it.

Well, my dear family in Christ, we have the opportunity to share this wonderful love and joy with the whole community this month. For unto us a child is born, and we will gather to celebrate His birth. Families will gather together, dress their best, and sit together in the pews to share that love and joy. We all know how our hearts are filled and spirits are lifted at Christmas,

even if our hearts are heavy with the memories of those who are not with us, because we are surrounded by God's family rejoicing in God's great gift of a son given to the world.

As with the birth of a child, we have the opportunity, nay the joy, of sharing the good news with the world. On that first Christmas night the shepherds did not worship and then go right back to the fields, but rather they made known the good news and all who heard it wondered at their words. Our Southern Illinois District is encouraging each congregation to invite lapsed members and non-members to "Come Home for Christmas". We are each encouraged to reach out and simply invite others to join us in worship. To offer to pick them up, to have them sit with us, to welcome them as part of the family of God.

So, since Christmas is just a month away, I am asking each of you to first consider one (or more) people whom God has placed on your heart; someone you know is missing from our family here at St. John's, someone who maybe has a heavy heart this Christmas. First and foremost, pray for them, that God would open the door for them to return. Next, reach out to them and personally invite them to join you in worship. Surveys always show that people are much more likely to attend if someone personally invites them - Lifeway found that 56% of people will attend worship if personally invited. We have a God who seeks out the lost, Jesus is our Good Shepherd who brings them home. Look for more encouragement and help in the weeks to come as you begin by praying for those on your heart.

Finally, as a bit of a teaser for more things to invite people to attend, starting in January we will offer worship every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm along with Bible studies. This will include a weekly gathering of The Bible ReCap led by Lori Colbert which will walk you through the Bible in a year. Other Bible studies will be offered, look for information in the coming month. We'll also have a monthly Pints with Pastor starting on January 15th at 6:00pm at Lieferbrau, this will be a time of fellowship followed by guided open discussion about faith and life. May God bless our outreach and send His Holy Spirit to bring many to His church.

In the service of our Lord Jesus Christ,

*Rev. Mark Winkelman*



## **GREETINGS FROM PASTOR NOWAK**

It is hard to believe that in a few short weeks, we will come to the end of another calendar year. Whether we like it or not, time keeps moving along. It doesn't matter what we say or do; we cannot slow down or stop time.

Yes, we may not be able to slow down or stop time, but there is something we can do. We can enjoy the life God has provided to us. Yes, we may not know how many weeks, days, or hours we have left on this Earth. However, we can choose to enjoy ourselves and use our time wisely.

Thanksgiving is not the only time of year to give God thanks for all He has provided us. We thank God for each breath of life that He has given us. We thank God for the family and friends He has placed in our lives. We should all thank God every day for the riches He so freely bestows on us.

As we enter the season of Advent, let us daily remind ourselves of what is important. That during the Season of Advent, we focus on the words: Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy. Each of these words is represented by one of four candles on the exterior of the Advent wreath. We are reminded of these words each week in Worship. Each week, a new candle is lit on the Advent wreath. And as a new candle is lit, we focus on one of these four words: Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy as words our Lord and Savior bring to us through the remembrance of His birth.

In celebration of His birth and what it means for us, let us enter the Season of Christmas.

Reminded of these four words, let us set aside all differences, opinions, etc., and offer one another signs of Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy this Holiday Season. Let us allow the Lord to use us as His vessels. His vessels that go forth as shining examples to others of what it means to represent the Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy of Christ to all the people we encounter.

Don't forget that we are in the Season of Advent. This means there are more opportunities for us to come together and join us in Worship. We would love to see you.

Merry Christmas and God's Blessings,

*Pastor Brian Nowak*

## **From Your Director of Christian Education**

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

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

The Junior Youth are planning to watch the movie *David* on Dec. 20 and also go ice skating while in O'Fallon. The seventh-grade class will be hosting the Christmas cottage fundraiser Dec. 4-5 in the school's library. On behalf of all the classes, I want to thank you for your continued support in their fundraising for future class trips. Diana and I will be delivering gifts for the LCFS needy children to O'Fallon on Friday, Dec. 5. The primary Sunday school Christmas service will be on Sunday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Please join us as we listen to our youngest Sunday school students share the account of Jesus' birth. The school children will be leading the Advent services beginning at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. once again in the school's old gym beginning Dec. 3 (grades K-5), Dec. 10 (Daycare-Preschool), Dec. 17 (grades 6-8 up at church). The Junior Youth will be involved with the 9 p.m. candlelight service on Dec. 24. We are planning for Sunday school on Dec. 21. The Sunday school teachers will not meet on Monday, Dec. 29.

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

God's richest blessings! *DCE Bill Becker*



### **Poinsettia Garden**

We thank the Altar Guild for taking on this project each year as it is such a beautiful addition to our chancel as well as a heartfelt way to remember our loved ones or just give thanks to the glory of God for His many blessings to us. You may find Poinsettia Garden forms in the back of the church or in the school office. The cost is \$8, and you may return it to the office or by way of the offering basket by Friday, December 19. Thank you!

### **A Musical Moment**

Greetings from Mrs. Lindsey Hudak and welcome to December! December is one of the most joyful but also one of the busiest times of year for me as I'm sure it is for you too! After the celebrations of Christ's birth come to an end, take time to mentally, physically, and spiritually recharge. I know I will be doing the same thing! Then when January and the new year roll around, we can begin 2026 rejuvenated in body, mind, and spirit for another year in Jesus' name!

In Christ, *Mrs. Lindsey Hudak*

### **From the LCMS Foundation**

Have you participated in any high school class reunions? Some classes are great at getting together. Other classmates have been thrown to the wind across the country, even the world, and rarely connect. Maybe you have someone from your class that shares old pictures on social media. It's fun

to reminisce. But maybe in the midst of that remembering also comes a certain amount of regret, as you think about the wide-eyed enthusiasm you used to have about what you would accomplish in the future, and now it feels like you are just wrapping up.

For some, working on their estate plan may actually feel like giving up, as if most of the living is complete in life. But there is another way to think of

it. A Christian estate plan is one of anticipation, as the Lord Jesus will lead us to the glory that He has prepared for us. St. Paul once said, "Nothing can compare to the glory that is about to be revealed in us." (Romans 8) An estate plan looks at physical things, and recognizes they have belonged

to the Lord all along. And now we get to put a plan in place, in how our family will be blessed in inheritance and how we can support the work of God's Kingdom in the ministry of the Church. There is no end here, but bright prospects.

Sometimes we need a little help and encouragement to maintain that kind of positive perspective. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or [scott.radden@lfnd.org](mailto:scott.radden@lfnd.org)

### **Sunday School**

The Primary Sunday School Christmas service will be held Sunday, December 14 at 6 p.m. There will be no classes on December 28 for Sunday school aged children. Teachers will not meet on Monday, December 29.

## Principal's Pen

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

We congratulate Mrs. Rachel Miller for being selected as the VFW Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Award winner. We are proud to recognize her for representing our school and community. She is pictured with VFW member Larry Ehlers.



We are very thankful for and very proud of the men and women who we remembered and honored during our Veterans' Day Chapel on November 12. Our third, fourth, and fifth grades prepared breakfast for our Veterans before the chapel as a way of saying thank you. We were happy to see so many Veterans and their families!

Both our boys and girls are busy with regular season basketball games, and cheerleaders get our home crowd pumped up during every game. The boys' varsity team will compete in the 16-team tournament hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran School in Collinsville. They look forward to having a final four finish again, this year in the tournament! The girls' team will compete in the 6-team tournament hosted by Trinity St. John's Nashville. Aside from the heat of competition, both teams were able to enjoy some Lutheran fellowship and services, as both of these tournaments had only Lutheran Schools participating and offered church services after competition on Saturday evening. Please check the school's website for the schedule of dates and times, found under calendars.

Thanks to all who ordered Watkins again this year. The money helps to support the

sports uniform account. Just a note that orders arrived a week before Thanksgiving break this year. Thank you to Becky and Jeremy Stelhorn for continuing to offer our sports program this fundraising activity.

The junior high school students are in the midst of their second-quarter service project. Each class will visit Garden Place three times: December, January, and February. On these visits, the students play the game "Farkle" with the residents. During the visits, many



genuine conversations have taken place, and what appears to be a whole lot of fun.

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

The schedule of these services is as follows:

- Grades K-5: December 3rd at 9:00 am & 6:30 pm (School's Old Gymnasium)
- Daycare & Preschool: December 10th at 9:00 am & 6:30 pm (School's Old Gymnasium)
- Grades 6-8 on Dec. 17 at 9:00 am & 6:30 pm (Church)

Our students once again will be able to shop the Christmas cottage on December 4 and 5th. This is sponsored by the 7th grade class. The funds earned will go towards their Washington DC trip.

Our only early dismissal day for December will be Wednesday, December 19. Dismissal will be at 1:45 p.m. There will be no after-school care that day.

May the joy, love, peace, and hope of Christmas fill your hearts during the Christmas season and into the new year!

God's blessings, *Mr. Justin Palm*

## Men's Club Meeting

Each Men's Club member and guest are invited to the annual Christmas dinner. The date is December 11 @ 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Gerald Hanebutt @ [hanebutt@htc.net](mailto:hanebutt@htc.net) by December 8 so I know how much food to prepare. Fun and fellowship to follow the meal. Hope to see you there!

### **Midweek Bible Classes in the Fellowship Hall**

Women's Bible Study on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings will start a new study on December 2 "No Stranger in the Manger" by Donna Snow. The study material is free of charge. All women are invited to participate. For more information contact Chris Doerr 618-343-5329 Our Mom's Bible Study on Wednesdays are on break and will resume in the Spring.

### **Evening Guild News**

Advent Candlelight Program - Christmas Party is Tuesday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We invite anyone in the congregation and guests, including husbands, to a fried chicken potluck dinner. Please bring a covered dish.

The November Mission project for Musketeer Market and ComWell continues.

The quilting schedule for December is Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the quilting room.

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

LWML Scholarships: Southern Illinois District LWML offers scholarships to students going into full-time church work (pastor, teacher, DCE) this coming fall semester. Applications are on the website at [www.sidlwml.org](http://www.sidlwml.org) and must be submitted by March 15, 2026.

### **Senior Youth**

On Sunday December 14 the group will meet and go bowling. Pizza will be ordered.

### **The Prayer Chain**

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. To serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact her at [dvheller@htc.net](mailto:dvheller@htc.net) or 618/521-7417. Call our office to add someone to our worship prayers.



### **Kindergarten Teaching Position**

St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud is looking for a Kindergarten homeroom teacher. We invite interested applicants to use this link below

<https://forms.gle/a6nEts8pyapaiDcR7>) to learn more about the position and send in a resume for review. You may also email ([office@stjohnsredbud.org](mailto:office@stjohnsredbud.org)) or call the office (618-282-3873) Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00 for more information. We have competitive pay and a great benefits package which includes insurance for the employee and a pension. We look forward to the responses that come in and await the plans and people God has in store for St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud. Deadline for submission of applications is January 9, 2025

### **Junior Youth**

Our December event will be a trip to the movies! On Saturday, December 20th, looking at the noon showing but will know the exact time when it gets closer. After the movie, possibly looking at Ice Skating at the McKendree MetroRecPlex in O'Fallon.

### **December Servers**

Flowers: Diane Kunkelmann & Pam Miller  
Parameters: Irma Birkner Cloths: Breanne Muench

### **We Bid a Fond Farewell**

10/23/2025 – Death of Kenny Althoff  
10/31/2025 – Death of Loretta Bievenue  
11/06/2025 – Death of Susie Harms

### **Welcome to Our Family of Faith**

10/09/2025 – Transfer-in of Christine Buch  
10/10/2025 – Transfer-in of Grant, McKinley,  
& Kolton Florreich  
11/03/2025 – Transfer-in of Dillon Kaesberg  
11/15/2025 – Confirmation of Courtney Schoenbeck

### **LCMS Stewardship Ministry**

“We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves” (1 Thess. 5:12-13).

Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Do you have a person or two on your list that you just don't know what to give them? While I know you are running short of ideas...dad doesn't really want another tie, and your kid's teacher doesn't need another coffee mug. It can be nothing short of maddening to try to figure things out in the middle of this busy season!

As stewards of all of life and life's resources, we know that life is more than giving gifts. We stewards never want to take anything the Lord provides for granted. During this season of Advent and Christmas, it is a great idea to do whatever you can to be a faithful steward of your pastor. Even more so than the rest of the year, the demands on their time, their presence and their stewardship of the Gospel in the congregation become heightened.

The demands on pastors can wear them down and wear them out. How does the steward in the congregation serve as a faithful steward of the treasure that is their pastor? Here are a few ideas:

- Put them at the top of your prayer list. – Pray that the Lord guards them against the weariness that makes them susceptible to the work of the devil.

- Make worship a priority – St. Paul admonishes the Thessalonians and us to respect those who labor among us. There is no greater way to steward your pastor than to respect him enough to show up and receive what he has been sent to offer in the proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the Holy Sacraments.

- Be receptive to his work – If your pastor is tasked with calling you to repentance or encouraging you to be in worship, know that he is only caring for your soul.

- Esteem him highly – Take the time to thank him for his faithful service to Christ, the congregation and your family.

- Be at peace – This is an easy time for even minor annoyances to get blown out of proportion and become full-blown conflict. This not only spoils the season of Advent and Christmas, but it also spoils our stewardship of the Gospel and those who serve us in that Gospel. Remember that Jesus came into the world to be the Prince of Peace. This is an act of grace and mercy. The steward seeks to reflect this toward their pastor and their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Stewardship at Christmas can be a challenge. Stewardship of your pastor during this time of the year is critical to our shared stewardship of the Gospel at a time of year when many are more open to hear and receive it.



### Worship Greeters

Sat. Dec. 6	5 p.m. Stanley & Lynn Langrehr
Sun. Dec. 7	8 a.m. Linda Guebert & Christine Doerr 10:30 a.m. Ron & Diane Kunkelmann
Sat. Dec. 13	5 p.m. Virginia & Mark Moeller
Sun. Dec. 14	8 a.m. Cindy Steele & Sharon Henke 10:30 a.m. Gerald & Jill Hanebutt
Sat. Dec. 20	5 p.m. Stanley & Lynn Langrehr
Sun. Dec. 21	8 a.m. Clyde & Kathy Rowold 10:30 a.m. Vernitta Wolter & Cindy Ebers
Wed. Dec. 24	3 p.m. <b>Volunteer Needed</b> 5 p.m. <b>Volunteer Needed</b> 9 p.m. Junior Youth
Thurs. Dec. 25	9 a.m. <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
Sat. Dec. 27	5 p.m. Virginia & Mark Moeller
Sun. Dec. 29	8 a.m. Christine Doerr & Lisa Quinn 10:30 a.m. Ron & Donna Burgdorf
Wed. Dec. 31	6 p.m. Kimberly Ellis & Addison Breier
Sat. Jan. 3	5 p.m. Stanley & Lynn Langrehr
Sun. Jan. 4	8 a.m. Kalin & Kathy Liefer 10:30 a.m. Jim & Judy Guebert

### Acolyte Schedule

Sat. Dec. 6	5 p.m. Bryson Williams
Sun. Dec. 7	8 a.m. Conner Liefer 10:30 a.m. Payton Liefer
Sat. Dec. 13	5 p.m. Claire Doeding
Sun. Dec. 14	8 a.m. Blake Horrell 10:30 a.m. Blaine Rohlfing 6 p.m. Charlie Liefer
Sat. Dec. 20	5 p.m. Grant Florreich
Sun. Dec. 21	8 a.m. Aubrey Kiefer 10:30 a.m. Lucy Kuehn
Wed. Dec. 24	3 p.m. Brody Rahn 5 p.m. Grayden Schloemann 9 p.m. Junior Youth
Thurs. Dec. 25	9 a.m. Bryce & Bill Becker
Sat. Dec. 27	5 p.m. Alexa Cheek
Sun. Dec. 28	8 a.m. Aiden Kiefer 10:30 a.m. Max Voss
Wed. Dec. 31	6 p.m. Bill Becker
Sat. Jan. 3	5 p.m. Amelia Cheek
Sun. Jan. 4	8 a.m. Elle Sutton 10:30 a.m. Austin Stellhorn

*If you're **unable** to serve when scheduled, please switch with another acolyte **and contact our office** with the changes. Thank you!*





## Church and School Calendar

### Monday, December 1

7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room  
8:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

### Tuesday December 2

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at Fellowship Hall  
3:15 p.m. Office Staff Meeting  
6:00 p.m. GBB @ Chester Catholic St. Mary's  
6:00 p.m. BBB vs TSJ

### Wednesday Dec. 3

7:00 a.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
9:00 a.m. Quilting at Fellowship Hall  
9:00 a.m. K-5 Advent/Christmas Service at Old Gym  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at Fellowship Hall  
3:15 p.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
6:30 p.m. K-5 Advent/Christmas Service at Old Gym

### Thursday, December 4- *Pastor Mark Winkelman day off* *Christmas Cottage at School*

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church  
6:00 pm BBB @ RBC A and C Only

### Friday, December 5-

#### *Christmas Cottage at School*

GBB "A" Team Tournament @ Edwardsville Begins  
BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC Begins

### Saturday, December 6-

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

### SUNDAY, December 7-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Divine Service

### Monday, December 8-

3:15 p.m. Faculty Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

### Tuesday, December 9-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at Fellowship Hall  
3:15 p.m. Office Staff Meeting  
6:00 p.m. GBB vs Steeleville

### Wednesday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
9:00 a.m. Quilting at Fellowship Hall  
9:00 a.m. Daycare & Preschool Christmas Service at Old Gym  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at Fellowship Hall  
3:15 p.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
6:30 p.m. Daycare & Preschool Christmas Service at Old Gym

### Thursday, December 11- *Pastor Mark Winkelman day off*

3:00 p.m. Holy Communion Service  
6:00 p.m. GBB vs Valmeyer (A & B only)  
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church  
6:00 p.m. Men's Club Meeting & Christmas Dinner

### Friday, December 12-

BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC  
GBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBL

### Saturday, December 13-

BBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBC  
GBB "C" Team Tournament @ RBL

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

### SUNDAY, December 14-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service  
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
6:00 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service

### Monday, December 15-

5:30 p.m. BBB vs Marissa A and B only  
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Choir in School Music Room

### Tuesday, December 16-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at Fellowship Hall  
3:15 p.m. Office Staff Meeting  
5:30 p.m. GBB @ TSJ (A & B only)  
6:00 p.m. BBB vs RBES A and B only

### Wednesday, December 17-

7 a.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
9:00 a.m. Grades 6-8 Advent /Christmas Service at School  
9:00 a.m. to Noon Quilting in Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall  
3:30 p.m. Public School Confirmation Class  
7:00 p.m. Grades 6-8 Advent /Christmas Service at School

### Thursday, December 18- *Pastor Mark Winkelman day off*

5:30 p.m. BBB vs Steeleville  
6:00 p.m. GBB @ Immanuel Perryville  
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice at Church

### Friday, December 19- *End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter*

1:45 p.m. Early Dismissal Begin Christmas Break  
6:00 p.m. Faculty/Staff Christmas party

### Saturday, December 20-

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

### SUNDAY, December 21-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Divine Service

### Monday, December 22- *Epistle Articles are Due!*

#### *No School – Christmas Break*

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

### Tuesday, December 23-

#### *No School – Christmas Break*

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall  
Wednesday, Dec. 24

#### *No School & Office Closed – Christmas Eve*

3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion  
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion  
9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

### Thursday, December 25- *Merry Christmas!*

#### *No School & Office Closed – Christmas Day*

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion  
Friday, December 26-

#### *No School – Christmas Break*

### Saturday, December 27-

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

### SUNDAY, December 28-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class, *No Sunday School being held*  
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

### Monday, December 29-

#### *No School – Christmas Break*

### Tuesday, December 30-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. New Years Eve Service with Holy Communion

### Wednesday, December 31-

#### *No School & Office Closed – New Years Eve*

6:00 p.m. New Years Eve Service with Holy Communion  
Thursday, January 1- *Happy New Year!*

#### *No School & Office Closed – New Years Day*

### Friday, January 2- *No School – Christmas Break*

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

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - Red Bud, Illinois**

**Worship Calendar: 2025-2026 - Church Year A**

**DECEMBER 2025**

<i>Wed</i>	3	<i>9:00 a.m. &amp; 6:30 p.m. Grades K-5 Christmas</i>
Sat/Sun	6/7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent
<i>Wed</i>	10	<i>9:00 a.m. &amp; 6:30 p.m. Daycare/PS Christmas</i>
Thu	11	*3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
Sat/Sun	13/14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent
Sun	14	6 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service
<i>Wed</i>	17	<i>9:00 a.m. &amp; 6:30 p.m. Hope In A Manger (6-8)</i>
Sat/Sun	20/21	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent
Wed	24	*3 & 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion
Wed	24	*9 p.m. Christmas Eve Com./Candlelight
Thu	25	*9 a.m. Christmas Day Lessons & Carols
Sat/Sun	27/28	*1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas
Wed	31	*6 p.m. New Year's Eve Communion

*Services in italics will be held in the school gym (old).  
(Saturdays and Sundays do not match up this month!)*

**JANUARY 2026**

Sat/Sun	3/4	*Feast of the Epiphany
Thu	8	*3 p.m. Holy Communion Service
Sat/Sun	10/11	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany
Sat/Sun	17/18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany (Life)
Sat/Sun	24/25	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

**FEBRUARY 2026**

Sat/Sun	31/1	*(Purification of Mary/Presentation of the Lord)
Sat/Sun	7/8	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany
Sat/Sun	14/15	*Transfiguration of our Lord
Wed	18	*8:30 a.m. and 6:30 pm ASH Wednesday
Sat/Sun	21/22	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent
Wed	25	*8:30 a.m. and 6:30 pm Midweek Lent

**MARCH 2026**

Sat/Sun	28/1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent
Wed	4	*8:30 a.m. & *6:30 p.m. Midweek Lent
Sat/Sun	7/8	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent
Wed	11	*8:30 a.m. & *6:30 p.m. Midweek Lent
Sat/Sun	14/15	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent
Wed	18	*8:30 a.m. & *6:30 p.m. Midweek Lent
Sat/Sun	21/22	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent
Wed	25	*8:30 a.m. & *6:30 p.m. Midweek Lent
Sat/Sun	28/29	*Palm Sunday

*(Rite of Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.)*

**APRIL 2026**

Thu	2	*8:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday
Fri	3	8:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Good Friday
Sat	4	*5 p.m. Resurrection Festival Service
Sun	5	*6:30 a.m. Resurrection Sunrise Service
Sun	5	*10:30 a.m. Resurrection Festival Service
Sat/Sun	11/12	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter
Sat/Sun	18/19	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter
Sat/Sun	25/26	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**MAY 2026**

Sat/Sun	2/3	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
Sat/Sun	9/10	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)
Sat/Sun	16/17	*Ascension Day
Sat/Sun	23/24	*Day of Pentecost
Sat/Sun	30/31	*Trinity Sunday

**JUNE 2026**

Sat/Sun	6/7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 5)
Sat/Sun	13/14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 6)
Sat/Sun	20/21	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7-Father's Day)
Sat/Sun	27/28	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 8)

**JULY 2026**

Sat/Sun	4/5	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 9)
Sat/Sun	11/12	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 10)
Sat/Sun	18/19	8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 11)
Sat/Sun	27/28	9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 12)

**AUGUST 2026**

Sat/Sun	1/2	10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 13)
Sat/Sun	8/9	11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 14)
Sat/Sun	15/16	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 15)
Sat/Sun	22/23	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 16)
Sat/Sun	29/30	*14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 17)

**SEPTEMBER 2026**

Sat/Sun	5/6	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18)
Sat/Sun	12/13	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19)
Sat/Sun	19/20	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 20)
Sat/Sun	26/27	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 21)

**OCTOBER 2026**

Sat/Sun	3/4	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22) (LWML SUNDAY)
Sat/Sun	10/11	20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)
Sat/Sun	17/18	21 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 24)
Sat/Sun	24/25	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)

**NOVEMBER 2026**

Sat/Sun	31/1	*Reformation / All Saints' Day (Proper 26)
Sat/Sun	7/8	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 27)
Sat/Sun	14/15	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28)
Sat/Sun	21/22	Last Sunday of the Church Year (Proper 29)
Wed	25	*6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve
Sat/Sun	28/29	*1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent (Series B-2026-2027)

Saturdays at 5 p.m.; Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion is at 5 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays

Holy Communion is at 8 a.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

Holy Communion is at 10:30 a.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

\*Holy Communion is every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and major church festivals

\*Saturday Service will follow the Sunday 8 a.m. Service