

This Week

Campus Maps available at the Information Ctr.
 WC: Worship Center BR: Bride's Room
 KC: Kidz Connection OC: Off Campus
 LCR: Large Conference Rm in Admin. Office
 SCR: Small Conference Rm in Admin. Office
 WCL: Worship Center Lobby
 ECCR: Event Center Conference Room
 EC: Event Center-North or South

Sunday, January 4

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (In-Person & Livestream)
Sanctuary
- Children's Ministry Sunday School—KC
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study—ECCR
Bob Schneider
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (In-Person & Livestream)
WC
- Children's Ministry Sunday School—KC
- 6:00 p.m. SJ Students High School Night—The Garage

Monday, January 5

- 1:00 p.m. Mission Task Force Meeting—LCR

Tuesday, January 6

- 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study—ECCR
Judie Fanucchi

- 6:30 p.m. Elder's Meeting—LCR

Wednesday, January 7

- 6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study—LCR
Nate Smidt
- 8:45 a.m. Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study—WC Lobby
- 9:00 a.m. SJCC Morning Chapel—WC
- 11:15 a.m. Level 1 Yoga—Music Room
- 6:00 p.m. AWANA Family Night—KC

- First Communion—SJLS Room 104
- Confirmation—LCR
- SJ Students Jr. High Night—The Garage
- Celebration Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Thursday, January 8

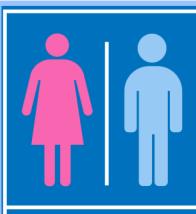
- 8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study—SCR
Dean Nulton
- 9:00 a.m. MOMCo Meetup—ECCR
- 6:00 p.m. Bells of Praise Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, January 9

- 8:30 a.m. SJLS Morning Chapel—WC

Saturday, January 10

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study—LCR
Lynn Wheeler



THE RESTROOMS
ARE LOCATED
IN THE LOBBY,
ACROSS FROM
THE NURSERY.

Prayers

We invite you to submit your prayer petitions using a Prayer Request card or by contacting Hailey Smidt, 665-7815, or by going online through the website or the SJLC App

PRAYER GUIDE

Health Concerns & Illnesses

*Hospitalized or Skilled Nursing/Rehab
Bob Brandt, Nancy Green, Lance Hall, Michael Pennington, Hardie Smith

Guidance & Strength in Transitions, Travel & Faith

John Andrew

Continued Concerns

Michelle Braughton, Frank Fanucchi, Diane Ford, Judy Fritch, Annis Gerner, Laura Hanssen, Steve & Cheryl McConaughey, Bob & Marcia Perry, JoAnn Pettijohn, Dorothy Sundberg, Lisa Vorhees

- Our Veterans & active serving military men & women, those with financial and employment needs, our community, A God fearing nation & world, our nation's leaders, local and all nations, our military and their families, Law Enforcement, Emergency Services and their families, LIFEGroups, persecuted Christians, St. John's church body, all staff, Children's Center, School, Angaza Schools, families, teachers, pastors, leaders, spiritual & kingdom growth

Amount Needed to Meet Fiscal Year 2025-2026:
Budget—\$2,044,300
Last Week's Giving—\$65,151.71
Budget to Date—\$1,064,467
Year to Date—\$1,019,482.85
Year to Date Variance—(\$44,984)





HOPE LIVES HERE: WE'LL LEAVE THE LIGHT ON FOR YOU

Matthew 2:1-12 (Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 1:3-14)

January 4, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

An illuminated light is a universal sign of _____ and _____.

It would be easy to see Epiphany as a _____ in God's plan, but it is best understood as the _____ of God's plan.

It's pretty clear what kind of king they were looking for; the difference was in the reaction: was this a _____ to be _____ or a _____ to be _____?

Long before Jesus grew, did a miracle, preached a sermon, died or rose again, the wise men bowed down and _____ Jesus. Who is He? Matthew here tells you, if you're listening.

By the time the Magi got there, Jesus was not in a stable but staying in a proper _____. Hope lived there, and His name was _____.

The hope of Jesus is meant to enter the homes, families and lives of _____ people.

Doors of _____ in 2026:

1. The _____ front door
2. A premium on _____-to-_____, in-the-_____ connection
3. A _____ generational shift
4. A return to _____ health, connecting mental, physical and _____ health

"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).

For next week, read Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

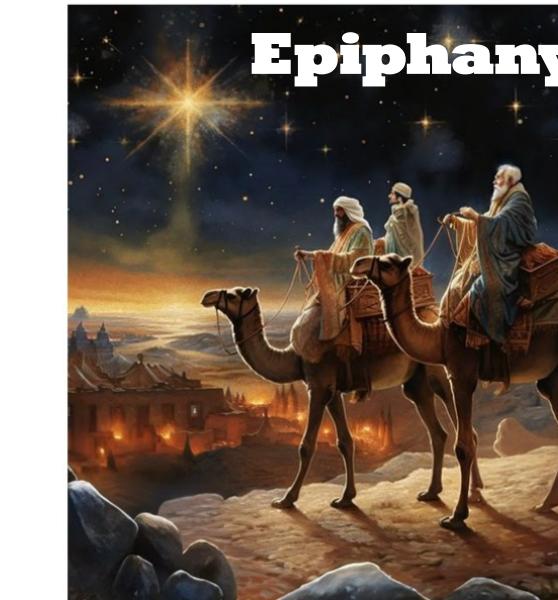
Didnt get all the blanks filled? Sermon audio and notes online at St. John's website: sjlchurch.org/sermons. LIFEWork pages can be found at the Welcome Centers.

ST. JOHN'S
Lutheran Church

January 4, 2026

www.sjlchurch.org

LOVE. LEARN. LEAD.



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US,
WE ARE SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU!

*Reminder: Please silence devices
during worship.

Sunday School & Nursery

Nursery (0-55 months) and
Sunday School (5 years old to 6th Grade)
are available for both services.

*Please check your child into Sunday School
before the start of service at the kiosk
in front of the Nursery.



FOLLOW US @SJLCBAKERSFIELD



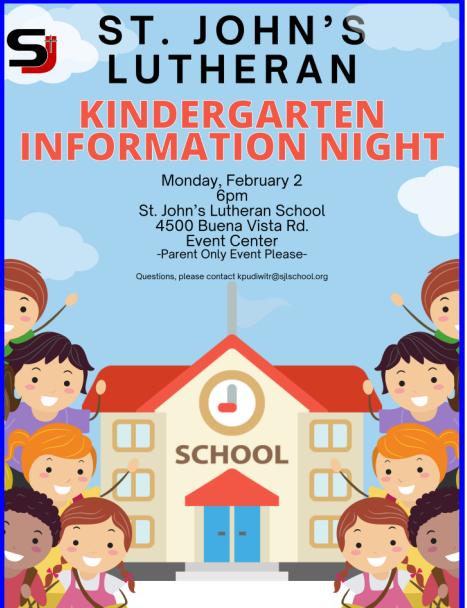
News & Notes

COME JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study
Resumes TODAY! Join us at 10:15 a.m. in the ECCR for Sunday morning Adult Bible Study led by Bob Schneider. Bring your Bibles and your curiosity as we hear God's Word preached and study His word together. Questions, contact Stacey Persons, spersons@sjlchurch.org or 665-7815.

The flowers this morning in the Sanctuary are provided by the women of the Altar Guild to the glory of God and in celebration of the Epiphany, when Jesus revealed himself to the Israelites and the Gentiles as represented by the Wise Men.

Golden Eagles
Join us Thursdays, January 15 and January 29, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., in the Large Conference Room as we study God's Word and enjoy lunch together. Golden Eagles is a Bible Study for seniors. Questions, contact Stacey Persons, 665-7815 or spersons@sjlchurch.org.



2



Tithe Envelopes

If you no longer want the tithe envelopes mailed to your home address, please let the church office know and we will cancel them for you. This process will take a couple of months from the time the company is notified to when they stop mailing the envelopes. Please be patient, thank you. Questions, contact St. John's Finance Assistant, Michelle Fox, 665-7815.

LOVE ● LEARN ● LEAD

The people of St. John's **LOVE** God and others, **LEARN** to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ, and **LEAD** others to discover and live out their calling as God's people.



Prayer Requests

In December, we received a total of 112 prayer requests. Thank you for allowing us to pray for you.



St. John's SCRIP
Sunday, January 18, you can purchase SCRIP, between services, at the School Kiosk, only on Communion Sundays. You can also purchase SCRIP at the school office during the week during the school year. SCRIP is face value gift cards you can purchase from local and national retailers and restaurants. Why use SCRIP? It is easy and a percentage of every purchase of SCRIP comes back to support our School and Children's Center. Questions, contact the school office, 664-8090.



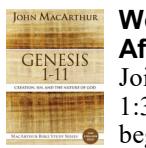
Prayer Requests

How can we pray for you? See the QR code to submit your prayer requests or you can text prayer requests to (833) 420-7948.



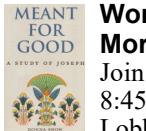
Women's Monday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us when our Bible study resumes on **Monday, January 12, 2026**, at 3:00 p.m., off campus, at a members home each week. Everyone is welcome. Questions, contact Jan Lundy, 665-7815.



Women's Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us **Tuesday, January 6**, at 1:30 p.m., in the ECCR, as we begin our new study, **Genesis 1-11: Creation, Sin and the Nature of God**, by John MacArthur. Everyone is welcome. Questions, contact Judie Fanucchi, 665-7815.



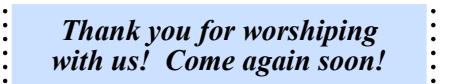
Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join us **Wednesday, January 7**, 8:45 a.m., in the Worship Center Lobby, as we begin our new study, **Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph** by Donna Snow. We look closely at Joseph's life, which reflected the Gospel themes of goodness, provision, and God's covenant promise for the faithful. Childcare is available, to register, go to: sjlchurch.org. Questions, contact Stacey Persons, spersons@sjlchurch.org or 665-7815.



Improve your flexibility, balance and strength

Join us **Wednesday, January 7**, at 11:15 a.m., in The Music Room for Level 1 Yoga led by Linda Cole. Questions, contact Stacey Persons, spersons@sjlchurch.org or 665-7815.



Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study

Join us Wednesday mornings, 6:15 a.m., in the LCR, to begin our day in God's Word led by Pastor Ben. Everyone is welcome! Questions, contact Stacey Persons, spersons@sjlchurch.org, or 665-7815.



Join us **Thursday, January 22**, at 10:00 a.m., in the SCR. Questions, contact Pastor Ben Schrank, 665-7815 or bschrank@sjlchurch.org.



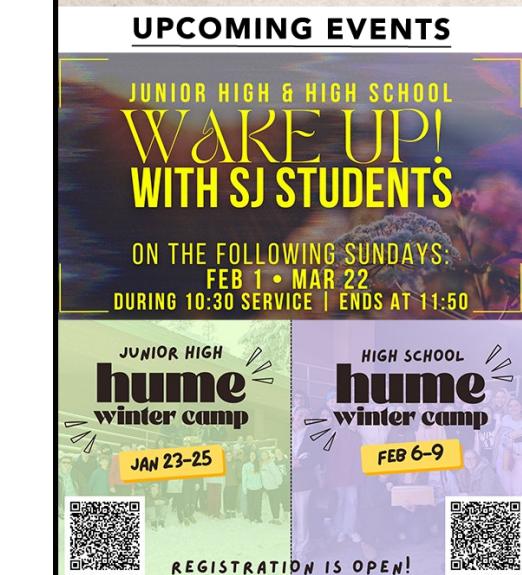
Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study

Join us **Thursday, January 8**, 8:30 a.m., in the SCR. Questions, contact Dean Nulton, 665-7815.



WEEKLY STUDENT MEETINGS

JUNIOR HIGH NIGHT
WED • 6-7:30PM
MEETS IN THE GARAGE
DOORS & SNACK BAR OPEN AT 5:30!



We want to be part of an ongoing conversation with you and your children, talking about the LOVE of God, how to LEARN about God, and how to LEAD friends to know God.

Join us every Sunday
SUNDAY SCHOOL
Preschool-6th
during both services.
Check-in your child at
Kidz Min Kiosk.

0-3 year old
during both services
Check-in your child
at the Kidz Min Kiosk.

WEDNESDAY KIDZ MIN PROGRAMS

AWANA, 1st Communion and Confirmation are on break till the New Year. Have a wonderful time celebrating Christmas together with your family and friends.

Join us back on
January 7, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

For more information www.sjlchurch.org/AWANA
Questions contact Lorraine Davis
665-7815 ldavis@sjlchurch.org

