



The Informer

January 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church of East Moline, IL

Volume 66 Issue 5



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"Light has come into the world..." (John 3: 19b)

Epiphany greetings to you, my family in Christ!

The season of the church year which begins on January 6, Epiphany, is the season of light. It is the continuing celebration of Christmas when our God and King makes His appearance among us through His Son.

Many years ago President Bush offered a speech in which he mentioned a "thousand points of light". He was referring to all of the positive things we can do to make this a better world. In this issue of "The Informer" I want to speak to you about "The Light" who has come into the world, and the "thousand points of light" we are called to be as a congregation.

The **"true Light that enlightens everyone," (John 1:9a)** is Jesus Christ. Without Him we would still be dead in sin and doomed to spiritual darkness. But thankfully through the life, death and resurrection of His Son, the Father has revealed His uncreated light to us. The Bible tells us: **"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only who came from the Father, full of grace and truth...No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known to us." (John 1:14-18)** Jesus is the light of the world and of our congregation. Every Lord's Day He makes His appearance among us to reveal the glorious riches of God's grace in the Gospel. As we gather for worship our Heavenly King comes to us, blessing us with the royal gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through the Means of Grace. Christ is "The Light" of our life together as the people of God. He is the source of our new life together as brothers and sisters, as He says: **"I Am the Light of the World, Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12b)** We, the congregation of believers at St. John's, are truly blessed in seeing "The Light" of Christ which brings us life.

Yet, another great blessing is ours when our Savior says to us: **"You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14a)** We are God's "thousand points of light" (or at least a little over 500 of them) sent into the world to make the glory of God in Christ known. Over 2000 years ago the light from Bethlehem's star led the Magi to the hay-filled throne of God to worship Him. Now, it is our turn. It is our turn to lead others to God's throne of grace at the bloody cross, and empty tomb. Christ tells us: **"In the same way, let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)** We, as a congregation, have been given the honor and privilege of pointing the way to Jesus. We live in, and by, the light of Christ for one grand purpose, that others may come to know Christ through us. Whether a homemaker, a businessperson, a laborer, or a pastor we share one superior calling: **"to declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His wonderful light." (1 Peter 1:9)**

My Epiphany prayer for you is that you may come to glory in "The Light" of Christ, and live out your calling to be one of the "thousand points of light" who bring the joy of salvation into the lives of others

In Christ's Love,,

Walking in the
Light of Christ!

Pastor Umberger

Serving the Lord this Month

Ushers

Sat, Jan 6: Greg Burke, Rick Newlon,
Larry Ripka, and Todd Miller
Sun, Jan 7: Evan Antolik
Sat, Jan 13: Greg Burke, Rick Newlon,
Larry Ripka, and Todd Miller
Sun, Jan 14: Glen McMillin
Sat, Jan 20: Greg Burke, Rick Newlon,
Larry Ripka, and Todd Miller
Sun, Jan 21: Evan Antolik
Sat, Jan 27: Greg Burke, Rick Newlon,
Larry Ripka, and Todd Miller
Sun, Jan 28: Rod Hopkins

Greeters

Sat, Jan 6:
Sun, Jan 7:

Sat, Jan 13:
Sun, Jan 14:

Sat, Jan 20:
Sun, Jan 21:

Sat, Jan 27:
Sun, Jan 28:

Acolytes

(Sundays only)
Sun, Jan 7: Bennett Johnson
Sun, Jan 14: Brayden Medinger
Sun, Jan 21: Lydia Merritt
Sun, Jan 28: Bentley Orton



Communion Assistants

Sun, Jan 7: Jim Homann and Kevin
McAnally

Sun, Jan 21: Dennis Boarts and
Jonathan Schmidt



Altar Guild

Flo Moore
and
Margie Schaefer

Eternal Candle

Jan 7: OPEN
Jan 14: Greg Burke, in memory of John's passing
Jan 21: OPEN
Jan 28: OPEN



Flower Chart

Jan 7: OPEN
Jan 14: Lynne Suess
Jan 21: OPEN
Jan 28: OPEN



Church News

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 3 - Judy DuganJan. 4 - Donna Green & Leona FlaughJan. 6 - James Hinman & John IwenJan. 7 - Stratton ChurchillJan. 11 - Brantley McKay, Bonnie McManus, & Jerry HillJan. 12 - Jason Cass, Shane Parvin, & Aubree Medinger,Jan. 14 - Duane Little, Clark Stojan, Lynne Suess & Stephanie VanRyckeJan. 15 - Chloe HewittJan. 16 - Brent AntolikJan. 18 - David Cashion & Angie VanRyckeJan. 20 - Lori Borkgren &

Melissa Nickens

Jan. 21 - Marissa Keogh & Matthew RyanJan. 22 - Rebecca HinmanJan. 23 - Lee WeathersJan. 24 - Tyler Belan, Carl Blaser, Amber Mattly & Willy Schlotfeldt,Jan. 25 - Joanie Bull, Lilith Hinman & Jennifer JohnsonJan. 26 - Liz Cockerill, Adam HomannJan. 27 - Pam Sims

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Death:

June Sutton (11/27/23)

Released:

Evan Kahle (12/17/23)

Molly Balentine (12/17/23)

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

<u>Date</u>	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
11/26/23	119	179
12/03/23	139	142
12/10/23	131	140
12/17/23	167	137

Percentage of St. John's Attendance: 27%

HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

Church News

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2024 offering envelopes will soon be available in the concourse. Please pick up your envelopes, but DO NOT use them until January 1, 2024. On January 1, discard any 2023 envelopes that you have left over and start to use the new 2024 envelopes.

Note that your envelope number may not be the same next year as it was this year. Therefore, it is important to use the proper envelopes in order to get credit for your offering. Those who did not pick up their envelopes for 2023 will not be assigned envelopes for 2024 unless you request them. A sheet will be on the table for you to request envelopes if you do not find yours in the boxes.



We encourage youth and teens to tithe also and will gladly give them envelopes upon request.

*Note to all Snowbirds—if you would like your year-end offering statements mailed to you at your winter residence, please contact the Financial Secretary or church office with the address you want the statement sent.

2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The 2023 financial statements are available to pick up in the concourse. You will need this for filing your taxes. If you need yours mailed to you, please let Kay or Annie know.

SIMPLY GIVING

If you would be interested in giving your offering electronically, we can do that! It is called Simply Giving, and it is so very simple to do. There is a form in the office to fill out, which would allow you to select a checking or savings account, the amount, and the schedule for which you would like to debit the account (weekly, monthly, yearly). You can set it up however works best for you. You can also edit the information at any time as needed. See the office or Kay Iwen if you need any help or have any questions.

LWML

Mark your calendars for our first meeting of 2024 on **Thursday, January 18th** at **1:00 pm**.

Watch the bulletins for more information!



Church News

ACTIVITIES ROOM

New Hours! The activities room will be open from 1:30-3:30pm from now on.

Monday, January 8th and 15th– Paint your own wooden wall cross– cross, stencils, and paint will be supplied. There is no cost, but if you would like to make a donation to the Activities room, that would be appreciated.

Monday, January 22nd and 29th– Making Valentines cards– supplies will be provided.

Wednesdays will remain games as usual.

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAYS

The 2nd Friday of every month is Fellowship Friday!

Join us on Friday, January 12th in the Activities room for pizza and playing games. Please bring a snack to share.

The activity will change each month so watch the Informer and Bulletin for details!



FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry has had a very busy couple of months. For the month of November, they provided boxes of groceries to 150 households, comprised of 510 individuals with 211 children! The week of Thanksgiving, they served a record setting 79 families!

So far in December with 1 week to go, they have served 106 families, comprised of 234 individuals and 85 children. The week before Christmas was another big day, serving 72 families!

Thank you to all our volunteers for donating their time to serving their community!

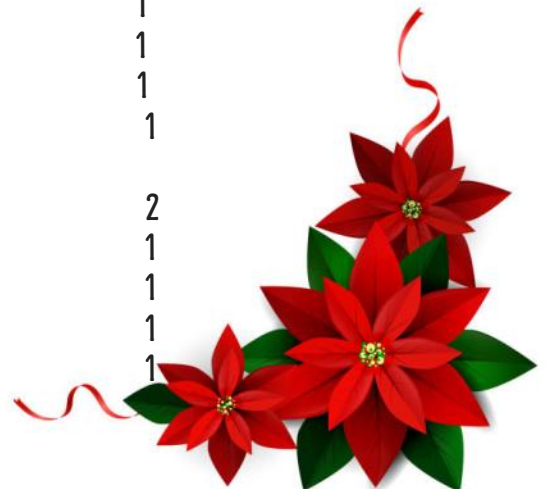
NEW FOOD PANTRY COORDINATOR NEEDED!

Greg Burke has served as food pantry coordinator for many, many years now– sadly he has announced his plans to retire this summer. A large portion of his time and energy is devoted to picking up banana boxes from the Silvis Walmart, and picking up food donations from Hy-Vee, Starbucks, Olive Garden, Little Caesars, and KFC. This could easily be divided up and shared by 2-3 individuals. If you think you might be interested in taking on the role of Food Pantry Coordinator, please stop in the office for a complete job description, or talk to Carrie, Greg, or Annie for more information. You might also consider to 'job shadow' Greg for a week or two and really see what it involves.

Church News

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT PURCHASED A POINSETTIA THIS YEAR!
THE SANCTUARY LOOKED BEAUTIFUL!

BILL & DONNA GREENS	IN MEMORY OF PARENTS	2	
DENNIS & MARGIE SCHAEFER		1	
JUDY DUGAN	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	2	
FLO MOORE	IN CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S BIRTH	1	
JERI CLARK	IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM BYLES		
	IN MEMORY OF DORIS BYLES		
	IN MEMORY OF RAY ZENTZ	3	
CAROLE VRBAN	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
LYNNE SUESS	IN MEMORY OF ROY SUESS		
	IN MEMORY OF CHASE WEEKS	2	
KRIS & KEVIN MCANALLY	IN MEMORY OF DAVE MCANALLY	1	
BARB BUCK	IN MEMORY OF PARENTS	1	
JOYCE HOFFMAN	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
SHARON DEWULF	IN MEMORY OF RICHARD DEWULF	1	
KEN & JANET HILL	IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS	1	
MR & MRS NORM ANTOLIK	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
LUCILLE PERLEY	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	2	
RALPH & NORMA GROTELUESCHEN	IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, BROTHERS, SISTER, AND SON IN LAW		1
LOU ANN DERAMMELAERE	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES WHO HAVE PASSED	1	
CHARLES & BEV BROKAW	IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL	1	
RUBY PANCAZIO	IN MEMORY OF JOHN (HUSBAND)		
	IN MEMORY OF JIM (SON)	2	
THE BELAN FAMILY	IN MEMORY OF ED BELAN		
	IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY & JOE SMET	2	
NICK & RACHEL KJERA		2	
JANET WACHS	IN MEMORY OF ED	1	
SUSAN BOWMAN	IN MEMORY OF DAVIS BOWMAN & LOVED ONES	1	
STEVE & DIANA LACKEY	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
GLEN & LORI MCMILLIN	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
THERESA WACHS	IN MEMORY OF ED WACHS (DAD)	1	
KATHY HERRON	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
SANDY YOUNG	IN MEMORY OF BOB YOUNG		
	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	2	
DENNIS & LOIS KELLY		1	
NANCY DAVIS	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	
JOHN & KAY IWEN		1	
TROY & VAL McDONALD	IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES	1	



2024 Elected Officers

Executive Board

President: Rod Hopkins
Vice President: Brian Engebrecht
Secretary: Diana Lackey
Treasurer: Norm Antolik
Asst Treasurer: Stevee Antolik
Financial Secretary: Kay Iwen
Asst Financial Sec: Margie Schaefer

Board of Human Care

Shannon Brand
Patti Ekin
Janet Newlon
Greg Burke
Jeri Clark
Tamee Stone

Board of Elders

Jim Homann
Ralph Grotelueschen
Dennis Boarts
Glen McMillin
Jonathan Schmidt
Brian Kern
Kevin McAnally

Board of Trustees

Evan Antolik
Zack Antolik
Brent Antolik
Ken Hill
Larry Hipple
Flo Moore
Chuck Brokaw
Bill Girard
Craig Churchill
Greg Hart
Bill Johnson
Nick Kjera
Scott Mattly
Todd Miller
Tim Stone
Brian Nielson

Board of Youth

Kris McAnally
Rebecca Hinman
Holly Belan
Cris Braddy
Annie Churchill
Lori McMillin
Kami Sellers
Rachel Kjera

Board of Outreach

Charlie Britton
Joan Britton
Larry Dodge
Rose Sullivan
Steve Sullivan

ALL BOARDS WILL MEET ON JANUARY 4TH AT 6:30PM. This is your first meeting with your 2024 line-ups, so please plan to attend!

St John's Lutheran 2024 Approved Budget

Income:

Offerings	375,000
Investment Inc/Interest	300
Rent	1,008
Projected Income	376,308

Expenses:

Executive Board

Missions	26,400
Loan: A/C Htg Roof Loan	10,560
Int: A/C Htg Roof Loan	5,760
Secretarial Services	15,816
FICA - Church Portion	1,212
Office Supplies	1,200
Office Supplies - Postage	1,560
Office Supplies - Copier	6,744
Technology & Computer	1,200
Paper Supplies	1,056
Subsplash App/Fees	2,664
Payroll Expense	456
Offering Envelopes	780
Miscellaneous - Executive	360
Total Executive Board	75,768

Youth & Family Ministry

Education Expenses:

Sunday School/Confirm	696
Library	144
Confirmation	504
Bible Class Supplies	744
Vacation Bible School	744
Sub-Total Education	2,832

Youth Expenses:

LYF/CYF	696
Counselor Support	408
Counselor Development	300
Other Youth	504
Sub-Total Youth	1,908

Youth & Family (continued):

Fellowship/Family Expenses:

Fellowship Events	1,008
Family Ministry	204
Sub-Total Fellowship/Fam	1,212
Total Ed, Youth, Family	5,952

Elders

Pastor Salary	52,884
Pastor Professional Exp.	120
Pastor Housing Allowance	50,004
Pastor Hosp/Retirement	36,312
Pastor Mileage	3,744
Conferences-Pastor	3,504
FICA - Pastoral Staff	7,872
Music Supplies/Workshops	600
Guest Soloists/Ensembles	852
Senior Choir Director	1,776
Heavenly Ringers	1,776
Cherub Chimers	1,776
Director of Music	4,032
Organist Services	15,996
FICA-Music Staff	1,944
Worship Supplies	3,000
Communion Supplies	804
Visiting Speaker Program	804
Conferences-Lay Delegate	396
Stewardship Materials	372
Other Expenses	204
Total	188,772

Outreach Ministry

Outreach	300
Ev. Festival & New Mbr.	804
Ev. Brochurs & Tracts	396
Total Evangelism	1,500

Human Care Ministry

Grief Ministry	396
Shut-Ins	348
Community Programs	300
Volunteers	276
Health & Education	108
Other	504
Total Human Care	1,932

Trustees

Janitorial Services	9,000
Janitorial Supplies	1,200
Ins-Multi Peril/Liab	10,224
Ins-Workman's Comp	1,200
Maintenance/Repair	1,200
Maintenance/Trash Removal	2,124
Maint/Lawn Care/Snow Plow	5,688
Maintenance/Pest Control	520
Maintenance/upkeep	3,000
Boiler Chemicals Contract	1,920
Boiler Maintenance Contract	3,272
Maintenance/Sanitary Items	1,320
Maintenance/Fire System	1,260
Maintenance/Window Cleaning	1,800
Organ/Piano Maintenance	900
Utilities-Gas & Lights	27,144
Utilities-Phone/Internet	3,240
Utilities-Water & Sewer	3,516
New Equipment	1,200
Total	79,728

Projected Expenses

Projected Expenses	353,652
Net Gain/(Loss)	22,656

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - 5th&6th 10:15am - Bible Study /	1:30pm - Activities Room 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - 7th Grade 6:30pm - Heavenly	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible	6:30pm - Board Meetings	8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship w/	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - 5th&6th 10:15am - Bible Study /	1:30pm - Activities Room 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - 7th Grade 6:30pm - Heavenly	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 1:30pm - Activities Room	6:30pm - Fellowship	8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
James Sharp @ St. 9am - Worship 10:15am - 5th&6th 10:15am - Bible Study / 10:15am - Sarah Jansen	Informers Deadline 1:30pm - Activities Room 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - Heavenly	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 1:30pm - Activities Room	11:30am - Ladies 1pm - LWML	8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - 5th&6th 10:15am - Bible Study /	1:30pm - Activities Room 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - 7th Grade 6:30pm - Heavenly	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 1:30pm - Activities Room		8am - Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
9am - Worship 10:15am - 5th&6th 10:15am - Bible Study /	1:30pm - Activities Room 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - 7th Grade 6:30pm - Heavenly	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 1:30pm - Activities Room			

St. John's Lutheran Church
1450 30th Ave.
East Moline, IL 61244



Phone: (309)792-0755
Email: office@stjohnsem.org
Web: www.stjohnsem.org

See The Informer
IN COLOR
On Our Website



Worship Times

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am

Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15am

Office Hours

Monday- Wednesday:

8:30am-2:00pm

Closed 12-1pm for lunch

Thursdays: 8:30am-noon



St. John's in Winter Snow