



Adult Sunday School for November: There will be no Sunday School today.

Join us for Adult Sunday School on **December 5th** as we learn more about the story of Christ's birth in Bethlehem with Denise Wright in the Fellowship Hall!

Sunday Morning Advent Series—The Bible—The Book of Advents

The series includes three sermons drawing from Old Testament texts that prefigure the advents of Christ. The sermons in "The Bible, Our Book of Advents" invite us to consider biblical narratives that are not always the focus of the Advent season. Instead, we contemplate anew the stories of Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and Joshua with an eye toward the advent and arrival of God among his people, then and now. True Advent challenges us, but there is much in our surrounding culture that subtly wears down messages of Christ's advents. Advent is about anticipation, less of the manger and more about the final revelation of Christ when he leads his ransomed to the inheritance reserved in heaven. So come and see how the OT reveals Christ's advent/coming into the world now and in the future.

December 5th—Surely the Lord In in This Place—Gen. 28:10-17; John 1:43-51

December 12th—I Am Has Sent Me to You—Exodus 3:1-15; Deut. 18:15

December 19th—The Goodly Land I See—Joshua 1:1-6; 1 Peter 1:3-9; Hebrews 4:1-11

Mid-Week Advent Services—7:00PM each Wednesday evening in Advent

Title of series: Wait Upon The Lord - The season of Advent is characterized by waiting—waiting upon the Lord for His presence to be revealed to us on Christmas. In this mid-week worship series for Advent, we look back in Scripture at those who waited upon the Lord for his promises to come to pass through the Christ Child. We also look forward, contemplating how we should wait upon the Lord in this present moment of our lives, as God continues to make Himself known to us.

December 1st—Wait Upon The Lord in Hope—Isaiah 40:27-31

December 8th—Wait Upon The Lord With Rejoicing—Luke 1:39-45

December 15th—Wait Upon The Lord With Gratitude—Luke 1:67-79

Mid-Week Advent (December 1st, 8th, 15th) - There will be no Mid-Week Advent soup dinners prior to the Advent services this year. The services will start at **7:00PM each Wednesday night** for three weeks beginning **December 1st** and will also be available on Live Stream. Live Stream details will be emailed to the congregation each week.

Commitment Cards - If you didn't get to submit your commitment card for the 2022 fiscal year on November 21st, you still can. The pew rack has cards and envelopes for you to fill out and submit. Please remember to write your name and address on the body of the envelope so that we can return the envelope to you in June or July of 2022. You can submit it as the offering plates are passed, or you can place it in the box located on the left side of the altar underneath the offering plates or turn it in to the church office. This commitment is between you and your Lord and will remain sealed until returned to you in 2022.

Be In The Know!! - If you want to know what is happening at St. John during the month, a monthly calendar is available in the Narthex on the Greeting Table as you enter.

Sanctuary Christmas Decorating Help Needed!!! Help is needed to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas! On Thursday, **December 2nd** at 9:00AM a Christmas decorating party is going to be held and many volunteers are needed. Many hands make for light work!! Please consider taking an hour or so out of your day to help transform the Sanctuary for the Christmas season.

Congregational Events:

Want to be part of something new and exciting? Join Lydia in planning a Community Dodgeball Tournament to raise funds for the students attending the National Youth Gathering. Interested? Email Lydia at dcestjohn@comcast.net.

Upcoming Children & Youth Activities:

Service opportunity for Jr/Sr High Youth! Food drive pick-up on **December 5th**. Meet at church at 4:00pm to head on out and collect the donations. Email Lydia at dcestjohn@comcast.net to sign up if you will be available.

There will be no Sunday School today. We will resume the regular schedule on **December 5th** and look forward to seeing you then!

Choir Member Practice: Practices will be on Sunday mornings at 8:00AM. We thank Darryl Smeltzer and Al Oesterreich for leading this effort.

Christmas Eve Service Brass Ensemble – 8pm Traditional: Anyone interested in playing their brass instrument in the Christmas Eve Brass Ensemble at the 8pm service, please contact Darryl Smeltzer at 717.870.2131. Music is senior high school level difficulty.

Additional Shoppers Needed!! The Compassion Center is looking for **three additional shoppers** to purchase Christmas gifts for the families being helped by the Christmas Giving Tree donations. As a shopper, you will receive a designated amount of money to buy gifts for families per their requests. Please contact Kathy Mokris, the Compassion Center director, to volunteer. Her email is jmokris@comcast.net and her cell number is 717.487.8158. Please respond by **November 29th**.

MOP Men's Study - True faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. James writes to believers who know suffering, who've faced trials, and who ultimately desire a deep relationship with God.

The MOP men's ministry will be studying the book of James from Right Now Media with author Francis Chan. Through 12 sessions, Francis works through James verse-by-verse, challenging followers of Christ to move beyond a private, intellectual knowledge of God and His Word, to a vibrant faith that impacts every square inch of life.

All men are invited to participate in this study. We will be meeting every other Saturday at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Jerry Cook (717) 825-1986 if you have any questions.

KnitWits - We will meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 1pm. Everyone is invited.

Thank You for Your Generosity! - We exceeded our goal of \$3000, with \$4,200 for this year's LMS Christmas Giving Tree! Thank you for your incredible generosity! This will enable us to buy food and Christmas gifts for 15 less fortunate families (62 people in total). We will distribute the food and gifts on **December 17th** at 10:00AM in the Sanctuary. Again, thank you for making this possible!

Compassion Center Update - The Compassion Center is currently closed and will reopen on Tuesday, **November 30th** at 10am.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Update: Thanks so much for the outpouring of kindness again this year. We collected 93 shoeboxes to be received by children around the world to let them know we care, and that Jesus loves them! We appreciate your support of this annual project at St. John.

Women's Ministry at St. John: All women are invited to an Advent Reflection time on Tuesday, December 7th at 9:30 am or Thursday, December 9th at 7:00 pm. Both sessions will be offered in person and through ZOOM. It will be a time of focusing on the hope, peace, joy and love themes of Advent. A "New Year Blessing" session to begin the new year with prayer and reflection on God's Word will be held on January 4th at 9:30 am and January 6th at 7:00 pm, both in person and through ZOOM. Regular sessions of Soul Care will begin again on January 11/13.

GriefShare at St. John: Grieving the loss of a loved one is one of the most difficult things any of us will ever have to do. At this time there is an unprecedented number of people throughout our country who are grieving and through the Grief Ministry of St. John we want to share the comfort and hope that Jesus has for each of us. Please think about the people you know who are grieving and share a packet that can be found in the narthex with information about our GriefShare program.

GriefShare meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm and on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm. All sessions will be held in person in the Fellowship Hall, as well as on ZOOM. *If you have friends or family members who live out of the area, they are more than welcome to join us on ZOOM! Please contact Denise Wright, Denisedsg@comcast.net with any questions.

The Fifth Annual Lighting of the Christmas Hope Lights is on Monday, **December 6th** at 7:00 pm. If you would like to come and remember a loved one with a candle, please join us outside around the statue of Jesus. Brochures with more information about this Grief Ministry Christmas Remembrance Event are available in the narthex. See Denise Wright with any questions.

Staff Christmas Gift: As we approach the end of 2021, we give thanks to the Lord for everything He's provided for each of us and everything He's provided for us at St. John. We are grateful for the staff that the Lord has given to us: Pastor Cosgrove; Denise Wright, our Director of Spiritual Growth; Lydia Woods, our DCE Intern; Sherry Gable, our Parish Administrator; Brooke LaNasa, our Contemporary Music Leader; Mike Pearl, our Audio-Visual Expert; and Chris Hanes, Denise's Ministry Assistant. To show appreciation for the staff's hard work and dedication, each year the people of St. John give them an end of the year monetary gift (usually by Christmas Eve). Please consider contributing to this gift, expressing thankfulness for what they do each and every day. If you would like to contribute, please place money or a check in the offering plate, marking on an envelope or on the check in the memo line, "Staff Gift". You can also send your donation to the Church office at 2580 Mt. Rose Ave, York PA 17402. You may also thank the staff with an individual thank-you, card, or gift. The deadline for the gift is Sunday, **December 19th**. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Rob Keough, MLB President, at rkeough@powlsinc.com or call him at 717-880-9119.

Thank you for the donations to the Human Life Services Thanksgiving Supply Drive. Those in need will appreciate all the nice things that were delivered in time for Thanksgiving!

Thank you: Rick and I would like to sincerely thank our church family for all the prayers, support and love you have shown us. Our son's suffering is over and with all of your support we will get through this. Blessed to be a part of the St John family. Rick and Anna Dellinger

Altar Flowers: The cost of sponsoring the altar flowers will increase effective January 1, 2022. It will now be \$40, which includes two vases and the delivery fee. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you'd like to sponsor the flowers for a special event or a memorial event. If there is no sponsor, a bouquet of silk flowers will be used in place of the fresh flowers.

Giant/Weis Grocery Store gift cards - The Social Concerns Team sells Giant and Weis gift cards and receives a 5% profit from the sale of each card to use for ministry projects. The cards are available on Sundays before and during Sunday School in the church office. Cash or checks are accepted. Card Amounts: \$20 / \$25 / \$50 / \$100. Thank you!



Deposit of November 21, 2021

Offering Collected:	\$	13,334.00
Direct Deposit:		895.00
Thrivent Choice \$		
Special Services:		
Brighten The Light		110.00
PayPal		

Total: \$ 14,339.00

Weekly Giving Budget needs: \$ 9,927.88

Attendance:	8:30 am	92
	11:00 am	48
	Online	78 (as of 11/23)

