

# NOTEWORTHY NEWS



## **Adult Sunday School Classes Began October 10:**

***Israel's Mission, Becoming a Kingdom of Priests in a Prodigal World***, a video series with Ray Vander Lann will be led by Al Oesterreich and Pastor Cosgrove in the Fellowship Hall. God gave an assignment to his people thousands of years ago: Bring “lost sheep” back into the love and safety of His kingdom. It’s still our task today. Come and learn!

**Bible Basics!** Join Denise Wright in the Community Room, the first room on the right after going down the steps just beyond the offices. This is a time to learn the most basic information about how to find your way through your Bible! Bring your own Bible with you!

**New Banners!!** We extend a great big thank you to Lynn Risi for creating the new banners that adorn the sanctuary. They echo a fervent prayer we often pray with regard to God’s direction for St. John—Lord grant us a clear vision of Your truth, a greater faith in Your power and a more confident assurance of Your love. Each of the gold letters form a Hebrew word—Truth—Faith—Love. We thank Lynn for her creativity and willingness to use her gift for the Lord and to take the time to help liven our sanctuary with beautiful liturgical banners.

**KnitWits-**I feel so blessed by the response to the request for White Rose Hospice. So many of you have made beautiful blankets, lap robes, or shawls for the veterans. What a blessing for each one of them as they receive one of your creations. These items accompany the veteran as he or she makes their finally journey home, truly a wonderful expression of gratitude for their service. I thank each one of you who has embraced this project. Many blessings, Colleen Loser.

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

## **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

If you would like to pack a shoebox, they are available on a table in the Narthex. You can pick it up with no contact; or have someone else pick one up for you. Copies of suggestions of what to shop for are in the Narthex, or this website will provide ideas and information: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-wedo/operation-christmas-child>. The suggested donation to cover the shipping of the shoebox is \$9. Please return the packed shoeboxes by Sunday, **November 7<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your support of this project!

**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!

**Women’s Ministry at St. John:** Soul Care for Women is offered twice a week. Brochures with more detailed information about Women’s Ministry can be found in the church narthex. You can also contact Denise Wright at [Denisedsg@comcast.net](mailto:Denisedsg@comcast.net) for more information.

**Thank You from The Staff:** The staff wanted to thank the congregation for the appreciation celebration you gave us last Sunday between services. The sheep cupcakes were delicious and a great idea. The appreciation tree was also great. Thank you to all who helped put it together. We felt the love!

**Funeral Fund Developed:** A funeral fund has been set up to help families with the costs of conducting a funeral at St. John. There are behind the scenes costs for AV needs, music, and Fellowship meals that are incurred for families requesting services from St. John. A donation has been made to start a funeral fund and the donor wanted to make it known to the congregation as well for future donations. If you want to give a donation over and above your general giving, you simply write a check to St. John Lutheran Church and in the memo line write "Funeral Fund."

**Creating a Gratitude Journal for 2022!** All women are invited to come for a gathering time when we focus on seeing and naming the blessings in each day. Even during the darkest and most challenging of times, there are reasons we can be thankful. It has been found that listing our blessings can help us to better see God's work in our lives and bring us joy!

We'll begin with a devotional time and refreshments and then move into making a booklet that will provide space to list several blessings from each day. All materials will be provided, and no artistic ability is required! This opportunity will be held both in person at St. John in the Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM at this time:

**Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm**

Please sign up in the narthex or email Denise at [Denisedsg@comcast.net](mailto:Denisedsg@comcast.net) so that we can prepare appropriately. You will need to indicate if you are coming in person or participating through ZOOM; we will prepare a kit for you to pick up ahead of time if you are zooming. Please come and refresh your spirit by focusing on your blessings!

**MOP Men's Study-October 30<sup>th</sup>** - 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. The November meetings will be on **November 6<sup>th</sup>** and **November 20<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Jerry Cook (717) 825-1986 if you have any questions.

### **5th Sunday Give-A-Way**

Leadership has designated **October 31<sup>st</sup>**, Reformation Sunday, as our annual Offering Give-A-Way Sunday. This year we will split the offering that is collected. 50% will go to our missionary Nathan Burke and his effort to help the orphan children in Romania; and the other 50% will go toward supporting the cleanup efforts in New Orleans from hurricane Ian. We look forward to serving the Lord in this way and know the blessings of these gifts will be many to those receiving them.

### **Compassion Center Update**

Donations can be brought to the Center during working hours, Tuesday thru Friday, from 10am-2pm.

- If you have a lot of items, please come into the Center and let us know so we can open door #5 for you to unload. If we're not busy, we can help unload.
- If you only have a few bags/boxes of donations, you may bring them into the Center at door #4 and drop them off in the work room.

**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.

**Human Life Services Supply Drive:** In conjunction with Pastor Appreciation Month, the Fellowship Team is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Supply Drive for HLS in honor of our Pastor and Staff. From now until Sunday, **November 14<sup>th</sup>**, recommended supplies can be placed in the playpen in the Narthex. There are printed lists of suggested supplies available in the Narthex. Supplies will be delivered to HLS in time for Thanksgiving.

**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](mailto:Denisedsg@comcast.net) with any questions.

**The Candlelight Service of Remembrance** offered by the Grief Ministry Team of St. John will be held on Sunday, **November 7<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00 pm. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one or want to give support to others who are grieving, are encouraged to come. We will hear messages of comfort and hope through God's Word and music and light a candle to celebrate the earthly life and now new life of our loved one(s).

If you would like to have a picture of your loved one included in the visual presentation that will be shown before and after the service, please either bring a copy to Denise Wright in an envelope with your name, or send it electronically to [Denisedsg@comcast.net](mailto:Denisedsg@comcast.net). You may submit as many as 4 or 5 pictures; any photographs brought in will be returned to you. **The deadline for pictures is October 27<sup>th</sup>**. We ask that you let us know if you are coming so that we can plan appropriately. You can sign up in the narthex, call the Church Office at 717-840-0382, or email Denise at [Denisedsg@comcast.net](mailto:Denisedsg@comcast.net)

**Surviving the Holidays:** A GriefShare presentation will be held on Monday, **November 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm and Tuesday, **November 16<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30pm.

#### **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](mailto:dcestjohn@comcast.net).

**November 14th** 12:00-2:00pm Family Soup lunch and thankfulness crafts for the whole family! ***That's you, you're part of the St. John family.*** Sign up in the narthex.

#### **National Youth Gathering (NYG) in 2022:**

High School Youth and Parents: National Youth Gathering registration officially began on **September 13th!** Grab a sheet in the narthex to fill out and bring back to Lydia Woods, along with a \$150 check made out to St. John Lutheran Church for your deposit. Please try to get them in by **October 27<sup>th</sup>**.

Youth and Parents: Have questions about the National Youth Gathering? Plan to meet with Lydia Woods after late service **today** to have them answered!

#### **Upcoming Children & Youth Activities:**

**November 6th** 1:00-3:00pm Jr./Sr. High Open Gym with Lydia!

**November 20th**, Jr./Sr. High meet up with Lydia at Belmont Bean Co for coffee and board games, bring your favorite games with you!

**Thank you** for the amazing response for Sunday School teachers! Additional substitute teachers or assistants are always welcome! Please see Lydia Woods or email her at [dcestjohn@comcast.net](mailto:dcestjohn@comcast.net).



Altar flowers are dedicated to the  
 Glory of God, and in honor of  
 the 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of  
 John & Polly Krout  
 on October 26<sup>th</sup>.



**Deposit of October 17, 2021**

Offering Collected:		\$	3,554.00
Direct Deposit:			1,395.00
Thrivent Choice \$			
Special Services:			
Brighten The Light			10.00
	Total:	\$	4,949.00
Weekly Giving Budget needs:		\$	9,927.88
Attendance:	8:30 am		83
	11:00 am		57
	Online		76 (as of 10/21)

