

# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

## DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE OF THE CHIMES

### From Pastor's Desk:

One of the books that I have on my shelf is a book by Frederick Buechner called *Listening to Your Life*. To be fair, I often find it to be a great source of inspiration for sermons and articles, and I want to share part of it with you.

A great theologian, when asked about life said this:

Have you wept at anything during the past year? Has your heart beat faster at the sight of young beauty? Have you thought seriously about the fact that someday you are going to die? More often than not do you really listen when people are speaking to you instead of just waiting for your turn to speak? Is there anybody you know in whose place, if one of you had to suffer great pain, you would volunteer yourself? If your answer to all or most of these questions is No, the chances are that you're dead.

Now the point of the text is that life is a miracle, but what I started to think about is -- what does it mean to live this life we have been given? Is there a focus point of what this living means? I think there is.

The focus point is that we are living in and by the grace of God. This grace allows us to experience all that is around us, both the good and the bad. The grace allows us to answer yes to the theologian's questions. When we can answer yes to the questions, that means we are alive and have been blessed to be able to have emotion. This makes us aware of the world around us, and the other lives in the world.

Being aware of the others around us lets us live out the spiritual callings of the Spirit to be present and minister to those around us -- to carry out the work of the Lord. That is what being alive is all about -- being an active contributing part of the kingdom, and that really is the miracle of Christ incarnate in us.

So as we face the mad rush that comes with our Advent preparations, let's all see what we can do to make sure that we are active and involved in this life experiencing all the joy and sorrow -- all the feeling of being alive. Until next time.

See you in church!

### SIX FAITH PRACTICES OF ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN

*PRAY* Daily

*WORSHIP* Weekly

*READ* the Bible

*SERVE* At & Beyond

St. John's

Be in *RELATIONSHIP*  
with Jesus Christ and  
the Body of Believers

*GIVE* of my Time, Tal-  
ents and Resources

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### St. John's Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

**Sunday, December 2**

Traditional Lutheran  
Potluck

Table Service and  
Drinks Provided

# ADVENT SCHEDULE

## December 5-St. Luke Lutheran (1330 Pine Street)

*Mid Week Advent Service*

6:00 p Soup Supper and 7:00 p Worship Service

## December 12-St. John's Lutheran

*Mid Week Advent Service*

6:00 p Soup Supper and 7:00 p Worship Service

## December 19-St. Luke Lutheran(1330 Pine Street)

*Mid Week Advent Service*

6:00 p Soup Supper and 7:00 p Worship Service

## December 24th, Christmas Eve, Saturday Communion (St. John's)

6:30 pm Family Service with Children's Message  
Birthday Cake and Happy Birthday for Jesus

10:30 pm Worship, Music Begins at 10:00 pm  
St. John's Chancel Choir and St. John's Handbell Choir  
Soloists and Instrumentalist

## December 30th, 10:30 am (one service no 8:00 am)



## SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, September 14, 2013 for "Living Proof Live" with Beth Moore & Worship by Travis Cottrell will be held in Charleston, WV.

Beth Moore's life transforming Bible study challenges and inspires women of every age, everywhere. Interested?

Questions? Call

Becky Combs at 740-452-6571 or Waynette Bridwell @ 740-452-4946.  
Details will follow.



Thank You for your generous donation of \$500 for the Lutheran World Relief Quilt & Kit Ministry. Funds granted from the endowment fund provided diapers, sleepers, soap, towels, and school backpacks to help complete the various kits in addition to contributing \$150 to the Lutheran World Relief Shipping Fund for shipping the quilts, kits, and soap overseas. Your gift is sincerely appreciated.

*Carole Yetter, Mission Action. WELCA Muskingum Conference.*

## The Sunday School Scoop

*Three adult Sunday School classes meet weekly from 9:15am - 10:15am.*

*Think about joining one! New people are always welcome!*

- ⇒ Greg Zink's class meets in the Social Hall. They will be studying and discussing the Gospel lesson for each week.
- ⇒ The "Pairs and Spares" group meets on the stage. They will continue to study and discuss the New Testament readings that will be used in our weekly Sunday worship service.
- ⇒ The "Young at Heart" class meets in the parlor. They will continue their study of Max Lucado's "Cure for the Common Life".

*Our children's Sunday School classes meet from 9:15am - 10:20am.*

- ⇒ **In December, the preschool - 6th grade classes will spend that hour working on the Christmas play they will perform for the church on December 16th. They will meet downstairs in the Quilters' Room (the 1st - 3rd grade classroom).**
- ⇒ Seventh - Eighth Grade Class: This is our Confirmation Class and is taught by Pastor Mark and Sue Dembski. They meet downstairs in the old Youth Room.
- ⇒ High School Class - SoulFire: They have begun work on the 12 Apostles and after that will learn about the "Bad Girls of the Bible".

Hope to see you at Sunday School!

# St. John's Lutheran Church Financial Report

## Jan. thru Oct. 2012



Our total YTD General Fund income from all sources for the first 10 months of 2012 was \$173,014.92 (compared with \$195,827.10 for the same period in 2011). This included General Fund giving from members totaling \$163,011.17 (v. \$166,743.67 in 2011) and income from charitable trusts and investments totaling \$10,003.75 (v. \$29,083.43 in 2011). Total 2012 income was \$13,006.74 less than YTD budget.

Fortunately, operating expenses totaled \$223,680.12, which were \$16,259.89 less than the YTD budget of \$239,940.01. Approved expenditures from other funds offset \$50,665.20 of our YTD expenses.

Although expenses have also been below budget, it is a concern that congregational giving, as well as investment and trust income, are behind this year's budget and well behind last year's levels. We really can't control investment and trust income, but congregational giving is under our control as individual members of St. John's. Our ministry relies on our individual and collective response to God's calling us to return to Him a generous portion of what He has first given us!

Our ministries are active and they need our ongoing involvement and support. Vicar Amanda Highben joined us in August as Director, Youth and Parish Ministry. We are blessed that God has sent us someone with her devotion and experience, and we are excited as Amanda works with us – the called and willing workers of St. John's – to strengthen and grow St. John's ministry.

Our Music Program is busy with an organ and hand bell recital presented on November 11 and practice for leading for the preparation time of Advent and the celebration of Christmas.

St. John's outreach continues to support the ministry of our Missionary, Barbara Robertson, in Tanzania; and we have again supported a number of local ministries including Eastside Ministries, Transitions, Christ's Table, Lifewell Ministries, Salvation Army, Super Bowl and the Homebound Program.

Over the summer, a number of our youth attended Lutheran Camps and four of our teens and two advisors attended the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer, with financial support from the congregation.

The property ministry has been busy attending to several significant maintenance issues and remodeling the downstairs office for the Youth and Parish Director.

We should all be as excited about what God can accomplish – through us - at St. John's. It takes all of our help, all our involvement, all of our prayer, and all of our stewardship of time, talent and treasure. Together, we can carry out what God exhorts us to do in this place where he has planted us!

Let us move forward with joy, excitement and thanksgiving for God's grace! I encourage each member to take that joy and enthusiasm into your regular stewardship as give thanks for our many blessings and answer God's call to return a proportionate share of what He has first given us!

To the glory of God in Christ,

W. Norman Shade

On Behalf of the Finance Ministry



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF IN-GATHERING 2012 Sharing Gifts of Extraordinary Love

WELCA--MUSKINGUM CONFERENCE---SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD

St. Luke Lutheran Church was the site for the collection of gifts on October 10, 2012 for Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Ministry. Eleven congregations in the Muskingum Conference of the Southern Ohio Synod participated in the gathering. Three friends congregations of Muskingum Conference also contributed to this mission project.

Many individuals were involved in preparation of the quilts, baby care kits, school kits, personal care kits, fabric kits in addition to donating soap throughout the year. Also, many members made monetary contributions to the LWR fund to provide for shipping overseas the items to those in need.

Special thanks to Roseville Motor Express for providing a driver and truck to deliver the quilts and kits to Faith Lutheran Church in Dayton, OH. The gifts were then transported to the LWR warehouse in Maryland or Minnesota. Also, thanks to Pastor Brian George, Bill Anderson, Leonard Glaub, and David Stoneburner for loading the truck.

### ***The total number of gifts delivered to Dayton is listed below:***

Quilts	153	School Kits	238	Personal Care Kits	155	Soap	732Reg/247Motel
		Fabric Kits	22	Baby Care Kits	96	Shipping	\$508.27

**Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U. S. Lutherans, serving communities living in proverty overseas.**

## Sunday School Christmas Program

We hope you will join us for the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 16th at the 10:30am service. The children will be performing the play,

**"Reporting from Bethlehem."**

After the service, we will have cookies and punch in the Social Hall. Hope to see you there!



**The Giving Tree** ~ Once again we will be collecting donations for the Salvation Army for the Christmas Season. They will be filling Christmas needs for boys and girls ages newborn to age 12. Some suggestions for donations might be blankets, dolls, Hot Wheels cars, Legos, board games, jewelry, markers, crayons, coloring books, DVD's, CD's, clothing, games, hats, gloves/mittens, etc. There will be a tree in the Chapel and one in the sanctuary as well. We will take the trees down on December 9th and deliver your gifts to the Salvation Army the following week. Thank you for your continued support of this local outreach project!

The Learning Ministry Team

## **Operation Christmas Child**

The Learning Ministry Team would like to thank you for once again generously supporting our Operation Christmas Child project. We delivered 39 shoe boxes filled with gifts to Rolling Plains United Methodist Church - an official "shoe box collection site". From there they will be taken to Charlotte, NC where each box is inspected. From there, the boxes are sent out all over the world in an effort to share God's love with thousands of children.

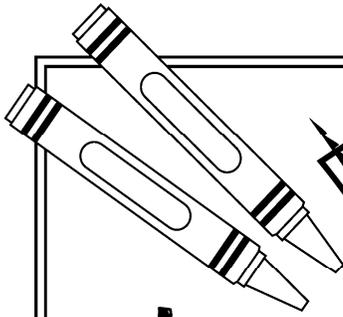
Back in 1993 when Samaritan's Purse first started Operation Christmas Child they delivered 28,000 shoe box gifts to Bosnia. Since then, they have delivered more than 94 million boxes to over 150 countries and territories around the world and this year trust that they will surpass 100 million! Franklin Graham writes, "At its heart, though, this project is still simple and personal - kids helping kids, families helping families, churches helping churches - all for the sake of the Gospel. Every shoe box gift represents the opportunity to reach one more child with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Never underestimate the power of a simple gift in the hands of Almighty God." Thanks for helping us be part of that!

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING IS DESIGNATED TO GO TO**

**AVONDALE HOME FOR YOUTH &**

**THE AMERICAN RED CROSS (LOCAL)**

**ENVELOPES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE**



# PUZZLE

## cheerful giver

Jesus came to serve and give to others. This Christmas season, consider how you can follow Jesus' example by giving your time, love and kindness.

**Directions:** Cross out every *my*, *me* and *mine*. Then write the remaining words on the blanks below to read 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV.



myeachmineofyoumeshouldmygiveminemewhat  
youminemehaveminememinemydecidedmeinmy  
myyourmineheartmemyminetomygivememinenot  
minereluctantlymeormyunderminemycompulsion  
minemymeforminemymeGodminemymylovesmy  
meamyminecheerfulmymegivermineCorinthians

“ \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ”  
\_\_\_\_\_ ”

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 9:7, NIV

Answer: “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV

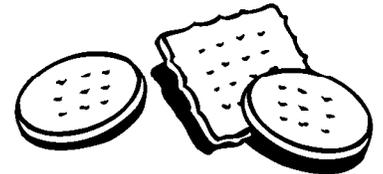


## Spread a little cheer

This holiday season, “spread” some cheer by giving a yummy treat that can be spread on crackers, bread or apple slices.

### What you need:

- ½ cup chopped, crushed candied pecans
- ½ cup chopped fresh basil
- ½ cup chopped dried cranberries
- ¼ tsp. black pepper
- 8 oz. goat cheese log
- Decorative plastic wrap



### What you do:

1. Combine the first four ingredients on a flat surface.
2. Roll the cheese log firmly in the nut mixture, coating all surfaces.
3. Wrap the log and give it, along with a box of party crackers, to neighbors, teachers and so on.



Save the Date

**JANUARY 6TH, 2013**

Come be a part of our Epiphany Celebration!

There will be a "Wise Man" scavenger hunt during the Sunday School hour,  
a "star" processional during the 10:30am service by the children and  
an Epiphany potluck following the service.

Plan to attend and enjoy the fun!

***"We'd like to remember each of our loyal staff  
with a special Christmas Purse again this year."***

Please give your donation for this purpose, in a  
marked envelope (**Staff Christmas Gift**) in the Sunday  
offering, or mail it to the church office.

No later than Sunday, December 19th.



Come One, Come All, to join in on decorating the  
church for the Christmas Season on December 8th,  
9:00 a till finished. It's a great time of fun and gathering  
with one another. Hope to see you there.

Thanks, Gloria Bailey

**UNDECORATE JANUARY 10TH 6:30 PM**



**St. John's Lutheran Church**, (straight from my heart) for all you did when I lost Bob,  
Pastor Mark, Amanda, the meal for us, the love and support I can't thank you enough.

*Love and prayers, Doris*

## SOUPER BOWL – 2012

The Sixteenth Annual Souper Bowl was held October 21, 2012. This year there were 21 area Churches, including St. John's, and 17 corporate sponsors that made the event possible.

The theme for Souper Bowl continues to be "A Simple Meal to Meet Basic Needs." We had another successful event. This year 953 individuals enjoyed the meal including a choice of soup, choice of sandwich, an apple, a cookie and beverage. Our 5 recipient agencies were, Eastside Community Center, Salvation Army, Christ Table, Fellowship of Christ Community and the Muskingum County Senior Center. Thanks to everyone, each agency will receive a check for \$2,475.00 to continue their outreach programs.

Thank you to all the St. John members who baked cookies, volunteered to help set up the day before and helped on the day of the Souper Bowl. Without these volunteers, Souper Bowl would not be a success. Thanks to everyone who came out and ate "A Basic Meal to Meet Basic Needs". The food was "SUPER"!

### ***It's Time To Register For Camp!***

As of November 17 Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio (LOMO) online registration for Summer 2013 is now open. Campers receive a \$50 discount when registering online and returning campers receive an additional \$10 discount if registered by January 1. If you registered online last year, you may use the same username and password. Or, if you don't already have an account, you can create one. Detailed information will be provided once you're logged-in. Please visit [www.lomocamps.org](http://www.lomocamps.org).

Of course you may also download and mail your registration forms. All registration information, including camp brochures, dates, details about LOMO's monthly payment plans and camperships, may be found at the website.

Here's an excerpt from LOMO's website to get your excited for Summer 2013! *"We are very excited about this summer's theme, 'Faith Alive.' Immersed in the beautiful, natural settings of LMC, Mowana and Luther, campers will explore 5 traditional practices of the Christian faith—Bible study, worship, prayer, hospitality, and services, as entrees into the way Jesus lives in the lives of his followers. All camp programs includes games, swimming, campfires, Bible discovery, crafts, songs, Christ-centered worship, nature activities, and well-trained counselors who care."*

Please contact me if you have any questions.

God's Peace,

Vicar Amanda ([vicarstjohns@att.net](mailto:vicarstjohns@att.net))

P.S. Did you know that LOMO sends out a regular "E-Newsletter" that is chock-full of information about upcoming special events, summer camp, retreats, volunteer opportunities and more? To subscribe, simply visit [www.lomocamps.org](http://www.lomocamps.org). Then, enter your email address in the light green box on the right hand side of the homepage.

# December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>8:00 Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School / Soulfire</p> <p>10:30 Worship/Communion</p> <p>12-1:15 DCYF</p> <p><b>ANNUAL MEETING/POTLUCK</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>6:00 Finance Meeting</p> <p>7:30 Executive</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>8:00 Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School / Soulfire</p> <p>10:30 Worship/Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Christmas Caroling Circle 5</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>7:00 Church Council</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>8:00 Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School / Soulfire</p> <p>10:30 Worship/Communion/Christmas Play</p> <p>Christmas Play Reception</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>7:00 Property Committee</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>8:00 Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School / Soulfire</p> <p>10:30 Worship/Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Nativity of Our Lord</b></p> <p><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>8:00 NO SERVICE</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School / Soulfire</p> <p>10:30 Worship/Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p>	



# 2012



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>6:00 Advent Meal St Luke</p> <p>7:00 Advent Service St. Luke</p>	<p>6</p> <p>2:00 Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>10:00 Pastors' Pericope Study</p> <p>6:00 Advent Meal St John's</p> <p>7:00 Advent Service St. John's</p>	<p>13</p> <p>2:00 Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 Quilters</p> <p>10:00 Pastors' Pericope Study</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p> <p>6:00 Advent Meal St Luke</p> <p>7:00 Advent Service St. Luke</p>	<p>8:00-5:00 Mental Health Board 20</p> <p>2:00 Bible Study</p> <p>5:00 Worship</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Chancel Choir</p> <p>5-8 Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5-10 Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>26</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE</p>	<p>29</p>
<p><i>Warm Hearts</i></p>			<p>1</p> <p>7:00 Piano Recital</p>

## DECEMBER 2

<b>Lector</b>	8:00	REBECCA CALLIHAN	10:30	BARBARA ANDERSON
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	8:00	GREG ZINK	10:30	SUE DEMBSKI & MARY DUNN
<b>Greeters</b>	8:00	GEORGIANNA MANGELS	10:30	K.C. & MARI FRICK
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00		10:30	AIDYN GABLE & KIERSTYN HAMILTON
<b>Nursery</b>	8:00		10:30	KARA & SAMANTHA GREEN
<b>Sound</b>	8:00		10:30	DOUG SMITH
<b>Crucifer</b>	8:00		10:30	JACOB BAILEY
<b>Deacon</b>		DOUG SMITH & MARY DODSON		
<b>Ushers</b>		RANDY FOSTER, DOUG SMITH, CLAY WILKINS, JEFF SHOWERS		

## DECEMBER 9

<b>Lector</b>	8:00	LINDA HOLLINGSWORTH	10:30	JIM RUDLOFF
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	8:00	GREG ZINK	10:30	JESSICA ROCKEY & BILL GABLE
<b>Greeters</b>	8:00	JIM & GAIL SWINGLE	10:30	CLAY & NICOLE WILKINS
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00		10:30	KEEGAN BUMPUS & JENNA BERRY
<b>Nursery</b>	8:00		10:30	KIM & KYRIE BUMPUS
<b>Sound</b>	8:00		10:30	RANDY FOSTER
<b>Crucifer</b>	8:00		10:30	TAYLOR BERRY
<b>Deacon</b>		CHRIS OLNEY & AL OLNEY		
<b>Ushers</b>		KEN DUNN, JIM RUDLOFF, JEFF SHOWERS, ED YETTER		

## DECEMBER 16

<b>Lector</b>	8:00	ELEN SHAW	10:30	GLORIA BAILEY
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	8:00	GREG ZINK	10:30	JEFF FERRELL & KARA GREEN
<b>Greeters</b>	8:00	JERRY & ELLEN SHAW	10:30	FOREST & SHIRLEY BAILLIE
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00		10:30	CONNOR MOORE
<b>Nursery</b>	8:00		10:30	GLORIA BAILEY & NICOLE WILKINS
<b>Sound</b>	8:00		10:30	K.C. FRICK
<b>Crucifer</b>	8:00		10:30	SARA DEMBSKI
<b>Deacon</b>		VICKIE MOORE & BILL GABLE		
<b>Ushers</b>		AL & BARB OLNEY, JIM & JOANNE WOOD, BRAD BUMPUS, AL COLLINS		

## DECEMBER 23

<b>Lector</b>	8:00	LINDA HOLLINGSWORTH	10:30	KAREN BAKER
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	8:00	GREG ZINK	10:30	WAYNETTE BRIDWELL & NAN HODGSON
<b>Greeters</b>	8:00	BILL & REBECCA CALLIHAN	10:30	JEFF & PENNY VINSEL
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00		10:30	KAYLA DODSON & CW WILKINS
<b>Nursery</b>	8:00		10:30	MARI & PRESTON FRICK
<b>Sound</b>	8:00		10:30	JIM RUDLOFF
<b>Crucifer</b>	8:00		10:30	AUSTIN GREGOR
<b>Deacon</b>		TORI GABLE & JEFF MOORE		
<b>Ushers</b>		GARY & GLORIA BAILEY, CLAY WILKINS, RANDY FOSTER, KEN DUNN		

<b>DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS</b>	
2	JOAN PLETCHER
4	NICOLE FAUST
4	JIM RUDLOFF
5	NICOLE DODSON
6	JOHN MAST
7	HELEN SHIRER
7	JENNIFER STOTTS
8	JOANNE WOOD
9	KALEIGH GREEN
9	BILL GABLE
9	MEL HATHAWAY
9	JON KULLMAN
9	DOROTHY WILSON
11	BRYAN PLETCHER
13	JAMES BERRY
15	CAROL MIX
16	ANITA MILES
17	JAYCE ADAMS
20	ED TEMPLIN
23	SHANE ROCKEY
26	ED YETTER
31	NAN HODGSON
<b>DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</b>	
1	NATHAN & JENNIFER HARLAN
2	MICHELLE & TRACY FRITTER
27	WAYNE & VANGIE CUNNINGHAM

<b><u>DECEMBER 30 (No 8:00 AM Service)</u></b>		
<b>Lector</b>	10:30	MARY DUNN
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	10:30	BARB OLNEY
	10:30	JACK BOOTH
<b>Greeters</b>	10:30	AL COLLINS
<b>Nursery</b>	10:30	MARY & KAYLA DODSON
<b>Sound</b>	10:30	RANDY FOSTER
<b>Deacons</b>	10:30	JEANNIE GREGOR
		BARB STONEBURNER
<b>Ushers</b>	10:30	BILL BAKER, BILL GABLE
		JEFF ENGLEHART, JACK BOOTH

**QUARTER PROJECT  
SR. CITIZEN'S FUND**

**Provides necessities for  
nursing home residents.**

<http://www.stjohnszanesville.org/>

Check out our new website. Bookmark it. Go there frequently to check updates and announcements.

St. John's 175th Anniversary will be celebrated in 2014. Members are needed to form committees to make plans during 2013. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the yearlong celebration or are willing to serve on a committee, please contact Rod or Linda Hollingsworth at 454-3930 or rhollingsworth87689@roadrunner.com.

Please consider helping with this milestone in St. John's history. God has blessed our church for many years. Let us be glad and celebrate.



<b><u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u></b>		
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	6:30	ALETA SMIDT
	6:30	ROD HOLLINGSWORTH
	10:30	DOUG SMITH & ED YETTER
<b>Greeters</b>		JEANIE & AUSTIN GREGOR
<b>Acolyte</b>	6:30	CHRISSY FOSTER
	6:30	SAMANTHA GREEN
	10:30	AIDYN GABLE
	10:30	KIERSTYN HAMILTON
<b>Sound</b>	6:30	DOUG SMITH
	10:30	JIM RUDLOFF
<b>Crucifer</b>	6:30	MARIE FOSER
	10:30	JACOB BAILEY

# ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ZANESVILLE OHIO

## COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Doug Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m.

**Council Members Present:** Mary Dunn, Bill Gable, Rod Hollingsworth, Doug Smith, Ed Yetter, Pastor Mark Combs

**Council Members Excused:** Jack Booth, Kara Green, Nan Hodgson and Greg Zink.

**Devotions:** Bill Gable led Devotions. He read to us from a sermon by John Bennett, a pastor from the Cleveland area given at a friend's funeral. We have been justified by faith and Jesus is there with us in our suffering. Simon Peter was a fisherman by trade and had fished all night and caught nothing. Jesus then asked them to go back out again in the morning to try again. The story is less about letting their nets down and fishing and more about trusting Jesus presence in our lives. Failure brought Simon Peter to Jesus. In today's world we try to do everything our way. We need to let our nets down in time of trouble and let Jesus solve our problems. Romans Chapter 5 says that we rejoice in the glory of God but we also rejoice in our suffering, because we know that suffering produces perseverance, character and hope.

**Agenda:** Bill Gable moved to adopt the agenda with the correction that the Treasurer's Report is for September and October seconded by Ed Yetter and unanimously approved.

**October Minutes:** Mary Dunn asked that the October minutes be corrected to show that she is not eligible for another term. Bill Gable moved the minutes be approved as corrected, second by Mary Dunn and unanimously approved.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor attended the Bishop's Clergy Meeting about Synod Finances on 10/10. Amanda will be preaching at the Zanesville Community Thanksgiving Service on 11/20 at St. James Episcopal. Advent Worship and Soup Supper will be at St. Luke's on 12/5 and 12/19 and at St. John's on 12/12. The AED for the Church has been ordered. Funds from the endowment were designated for this and training will take place once it is received. Pastor has one week of vacation left for the current year and asked to carry it over till January. His mother will be having hip replacement surgery. Rod moved to allow Pastor to carry over his vacation until January second by Bill Gable and unanimously approved.

**Southern Ohio Synod Visit:** It was noted that giving to the Synod by churches in the Southern Ohio Synod is down. Typically 46% of the Synod budget is for operating costs and 40% goes to the National ELCA. Due to the decrease in giving the Southern Ohio Synod has reduced the giving to the National ELCA to 25% for the remainder of the year. The Southern Ohio Synod provides leadership and support for the pastors and ministries in our area. They provide support for new congregations in various stages of development and work with other ministries such as Amazing Grace Day Camps and Faith Trek. Synod is asking churches to affirm their intended giving to the Synod for next year and to offer names of Assembly Delegates to help guide the future of the Synod.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Gable noted that Norm Shade and Taffy Tippet had worked together in October to make various adjustments to the September and October financial reports so that revenue and expenses were in the appropriate accounts. Bill reviewed the consolidated financial report from the end of October. The Building Maintenance Fund had a \$35,894.38 positive balance while the Building Repair Fund was negative \$9,432.35. The Youth & Parish Ministry Fund had a balance of \$7,150.00 of which \$2,950.00 from the Endowment Fund is reserved for calendar year 2013. Pastor's Discretionary Fund had a balance of (\$68.68) which Community Caring needs to replenish in November. The General Fund had a deficit of (\$30,641.01). The income for October was \$33,314.44 and expenses were \$33,089.50. It was noted Interest/Dividends are \$10,003.75 year to date compared to \$29,083.43 last year. Ed Yetter moved to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit second by Rod Hollingsworth and unanimously approved.

Council Minutes Continued.

**Budget 2013:** Bill Gable presented the proposed calendar year 2013 budget. The proposed increase to the budget from 2012 to 2013 is \$7,855.31. This includes having the Youth & Parish Ministry position filled the entire year. On the revenue side it includes an increase in congregational giving of \$3000.00. There is a projected deficit of \$15,705.32 which would be taken from the Memorial Fund at the end of calendar year 2013 which would eliminate the Memorial Fund. Bill Gable moved to present the proposed 2013 budget to the congregation at the December 2, 2012 annual meeting second by Rod Hollingsworth and unanimously approved.

**Ministry Reports:** Property Ministry Ed Yetter reported on two items from Property Ministry. The Property Committee will be meeting with the Bell Choir to determine the options for building a table in front of the sanctuary for the Bell Choir. The Property Committee is interested in a contingency plan should the new sexton be off work for an extended period of time with Ed Templin being considered as interim.

**Community Caring:** Pastor Combs made a motion to accept the Community Caring Ministry's recommendation that the Thanksgiving offering go to the Sunday School mission project of 100 wells challenge and the Christmas offering be divided equally between the local Red Cross and Avondale Home for Youth second by Bill Gable and unanimously approved.

**Council Planning:** Ed Yetter moved that there be a potluck for the annual meeting second by Mary Dunn and unanimously approved.

**Concerns of the Past:** A prayer team has been established to implement strategies of Natural Church Development. The implementation team will consist of Norm Shade, Barb Stoneburner, Greg Zink, and Jeff Ferrell. Council suggested to Doug Smith names of congregation members for the 2013 council. Synod Assembly is scheduled for June 6,7and 8 at Wittenberg. The Synod would like two delegates from St John's appointed in the next two months.

**Concerns of the Future:** The annual meeting will be December 2, 2012. The agenda will include the 2013 Budget, By Law revisions, election of new council members and endowment committee.

Executive Committee will meet December 4<sup>th</sup> and full Council December 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Wows to Mary Ellen and the Bell Choir for the November 11<sup>th</sup> concert.
- Wows to Colleena Johnson (newly hired sexton) for the cleanliness of the Church.
- Whoas to Neff Paving for not getting parking lot done this year as promised.

Pastor moved to adjourn seconded by Mary Dunn and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Hollingsworth, Council Secretary



**ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE**

**DECEMBER 28, 2012**



## What to Witness?!

“Longing for His Return”

### Readings from the Lectionary during Sundays in Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 3:1-6; Zephaniah 3:14-20; Micah 5:2-5a

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Combs had a fun and challenging time explaining the end times to the children during the “Children’s Time” with him at the 10:30 service. Children are longing for Christmas, Santa and presents, but they are paying attention to the world around them and to what is said in church. Let us not sell them short. Some children had some well thought points. As children of God we use the advent season to long for Christ’s return as we celebrate His first coming.

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. The progression of the season may be marked with an [Advent calendar](#), a practice introduced by German Lutherans. Advent, translated from the Latin word *adventus* meaning “coming”, is a [season](#) observed in many Western [Christian churches](#), a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the [Nativity of Jesus](#) at [Christmas](#). It is the beginning of the Western [liturgical year](#) and commences on [Advent Sunday](#), called *Levavi*. Latin *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used in reference to the [Second Coming of Christ](#). For Christians, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from two different perspectives. The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for his Second Coming. The theme of readings and teachings during Advent is often to prepare for the [Second Coming](#) while commemorating the First Coming of Christ at Christmas. With the view of directing the thoughts of Christians to the first coming of Jesus Christ as savior and to his second coming as judge, special readings are prescribed for each of the four Sundays in Advent.

**“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Revelation 22:17**

God chose the analogy of a wedding to describe the moment when we become one with the Lord Jesus Christ. When we become one with God for all eternity, we’ll know Him in a more intimate way than we know Him now, and God calls that “the marriage of the Lamb.” When I think about the fact that being swept up to meet the Lord in Glory and meeting Him face to face is so fulfilling that the Bible describes it as the consummation of a marriage. And those of us that are married know that the consummation of a marriage is a very anticipated event.

**....Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, unto the Lord our God.” Revelation 19:1b**

I’ve never witnessed a wedding where there wasn’t a beautiful bride, but no bride can compare in beauty to the one we’ll behold when Jesus returns to claim us, the Bride of Christ. You see, when we were saved, we were espoused to Christ, and an espousal is a little bit stronger than an engagement. An engagement is a promise to marry, but an espousal is a promise that you belong to this person even though the marriage has not yet been consummated. Every child of God already belongs to Him. When we become espoused to Christ, He gives us something better than an engagement ring. He gives us the Holy Spirit.

**“... and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” Revelation 17:14**

The Second Coming of Jesus is going to be the greatest event of all of the ages. It is one of the grand theological truths taught in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

- The New Birth is vitally important, but it is mentioned only nine times in the New Testament.
- Baptism is vitally important, but it is mentioned only 20 times in the New Testament.
- Repentance is mentioned only 70 times in the Bible, as important and needful as that is.
- But the return of the Lord Jesus Christ is mentioned in God’s Word at least 380 times.

Examine your heart. Does the Second Coming of our Lord make your heart pound with excitement? Do you long for His return and reign? Read Revelation chapter 19, then spend a few moments worshipping Him. How are you getting ready for His Second Coming? What if He came this very hour?

THANK YOU to those of you who contributed to the Quilter's Fund and brought to chances on the quilt in the Quilt Raffle. The money received will be used by the quilters to purchase materials for LWR quilts, food for the Wall of Food, offset some costs of our youth going to camp, postage for Christmas Child boxes, etc. St. John's portion of the money was \$350.00

The Quilt was won by  
GEORGIANA MANGELS  
CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

THANK YOU again and God's blessing on you.

The Quilters,  
Jane Bates, Mary Gatton, Mary Kent,  
Carole Yetter, Barb Olney



# King cake contest



In honor of our Epiphany celebration on Sunday, January 6, 2013, we will be having a contest to see who can bake the best "King Cake." You may use one of our recipes, or try one of your own! The cakes will be eaten at our Epiphany potluck following the 10:30 worship service.

Many countries make and eat a version of this "Three Kings Cake" or "Three Kings Bread" to celebrate the visitation of the Biblical Magi, or wise men, to the Baby Jesus. The tradition of the King Cake originated in Europe and followed French settlers to New Orleans, where it became an integral part of Mardi Gras celebrations. The cake is round, coated with glaze and colored sugars and contains a small plastic baby, or other treasure. Whoever is lucky enough to get the plastic baby in their slice, gets to make the cake the following year. (Perhaps we should leave out the baby for our contest....we don't want anyone to choke!)

If you have questions concerning our King Cake Contest, please contact Holly Moore, Mari Frick, Mary Dunn, or Mary Sims. Watch for this announcement, as well as some sample recipes, in the Sunday bulletins at the end of November. We hope some of you will have fun with this!

## **Mardi Gras King Cake**

For the Dough:	2 tablespoons unsalted butter	8 ounces sour cream	
	5 tablespoons granulated sugar, divided into 4 tablespoons & 1 tablespoon		
	Pinch of salt	1 package (2¼ teaspoons) active dry yeast	
	¼ cup warm water (between 100 and 110 degrees)		
	1 egg	3 to 3½ cups all-purpose flour	
	Oil for your hands and the bowl		
For the Filling:	2 teaspoons cinnamon	½ cup granulated sugar	4 tablespoons of melted butter
For the Icing:	2 cups powdered sugar	1 teaspoon vanilla extract	
	1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted	4 tablespoons whole milk	
	Pinch of salt		
For the Colored Sugars:	1½ cups superfine sugar (not powdered sugar), separated into ½ cups		
	Food coloring – Yellow, Green, Blue & Red		

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. In a small/medium saucepan over medium heat, combine butter, 4 T. sugar and salt. Once the butter has melted, add the sour cream and heat to lukewarm, about 105 degrees. Meanwhile, in a mixing bowl, add ¼ cup warm water, yeast, and 1 T. sugar; stir. Allow yeast to sit for about five min. until bubbly active.
2. Once the yeast is active, whisk in the warm butter and sour cream mixture, the egg, and 1 cup of the flour. Whisk until smooth. Using an oiled wooden spoon, being mixing in small amounts of the remaining flour until you form a soft dough. This will take about another 2 cups of flour. You want the dough to be tacky, but not sticky.
3. Turn the dough out onto a clean surface lightly dusted with flour. With oiled hands, knead the dough until and elastic, about 5 to 10 minutes, adding more flour by the teaspoon if needed.
4. Place the ball of dough into a large, well-oiled bowl, then flip the dough so all of the surface area of the dough is oiled. Cover the bowl with oiled plastic wrap and a hand towel, then set the bowl in a warm, draft-free area and allow the dough to rise until it has doubled in size, about 1 hour.
5. While the dough is rising make the filling. Combine melted butter, cinnamon, sugar in a medium bowl and stir.
6. Once the dough has doubled in size, turn it out onto a lightly floured surface. Lightly flour the dough and a rolling pin. Roll the dough into a rectangle about 18 inches long by 14 inches wide. Spread the cinnamon sugar mixture evenly over the dough, leaving a 1-inch border around the outside of the dough.
7. Roll the cake up jellyroll-style and pinch the seams shut. Carefully move the roll to a parchment-lined baking sheet, seam-side down. Bring the ends together to form an oval and press the edges together to completely seal..
8. Once again, cover the cake with oiled plastic wrap and a hand towel and allow it to rise for another 30 minutes.
9. During the second rise, make the colored sugars. Place ½ cup of superfine sugar into three separate bowls. Using the food coloring, make one bowl of green sugar, one bowl of yellow sugar, and one bowl of purple sugar (by mixing the blue and red). Use the back of a spoon or a pestle, work the food coloring into the sugar by grinding it against the side of the bowl and working the coloring throughout all of the sugar. Continue this until the sugar is uniform in color and there are no clumps. Try using 12 drops of food coloring total for each of the colors. To make purple, use a ratio of 2 red to 1 blue.
10. Once 30 minutes have passed, remove the plastic wrap and hand towel from the cake and bake in the upper third of the oven for about 25 minutes, or until the cake is golden brown. Immediately transfer the cake to a cooling rack after removing it from the oven. Allow the cake to cool for at least 20 minutes before icing the cake.
11. Once the cake has cooled for 15 minutes, make the icing. Whisk together the powdered sugar, salt, vanilla, melted butter and milk until smooth. You want the icing to be able to drizzle easily but not just run right off the cake, so if the icing is too thin, just whisk in more powdered sugar and if the icing is too thick whisk in a touch more milk. After the cake has had a chance to cool, move the cake to whatever platter you wish to serve it on. (At this point, stick a dried bean or little plastic baby into the cake through the bottom. It's tradition in Louisiana that whoever gets the baby has to spring for the next cake! Elsewhere, it's a sign of good luck.) Slide pieces of wax paper under the cake so that it can catch any icing or sugar drips.
12. Drizzle the icing evenly over the cake and allow it ooze down the sides. Before the icing has a chance to set, sprinkle on rotating strips of colored sugar. Slide the wax paper pieces out from under the cake and discard. King cake can be served warm or at room temperature.

## Easy King Cake

1 (16 oz) can of biscuits (regular Grands, not the layered kind)  
1/4 cup melted butter  
1/4 cup sugar  
1 tablespoon cinnamon  
A few spoonfuls of canned cream cheese frosting (optional)  
Yellow, Purple, Green Sprinkles OR Colored Sugar

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Open the biscuits and lay them flat. Press them into a large *circle* (about 12 inches) or giant *rectangle*. Paint the dough with melted butter. Mix sugar and cinnamon together and sprinkle evenly over dough. Lay babies somewhere on the dough. Roll the dough up into a cylinder and pinch as tightly as possible to seal. Shape the cylinder into a circle and lay on a cookie sheet. Bake for 35 minutes. Let cool slightly, then spoon icing over top and let it fall down sides. Sprinkle colored sugar or sprinkles on top.

## King Cake

Ingredients:	1/2 cup warm water, about 105 to 115 degrees	2 envelopes active dry yeast
	4 1/2 to 5 1/2 cups sifted flour (I started with 4 1/2 and added more)	
	1/2 cup sugar	1/2 tsp. freshly grated nutmeg
	2 tsp. salt	1 tsp. grated lemon zest
	1/2 cup lukewarm milk	3 eggs
	4 egg yolks	1/2 cup butter, softened
	2 tbsp. butter	1 egg, lightly beaten
	1 tbsp. milk	A tiny doll or coin (optional)
<b>Icing:</b>	3 cups confectioner's sugar 1/4 cup lemon juice, strained 3 to 5 tbsp. water	
<b>Sugar Topping:</b>	Food coloring: purple (you can do two drops of red, one of blue), green, and yellow 3/4 cup sugar	

1. Combine yeast and the warm water.
2. Combine flour, sugar, nutmeg and salt in a large mixing bowl. Stir in lemon peel. Make a well in center and add yeast and water mixture, along with milk. Lightly beat the 3 eggs and 4 egg yolks; add to liquid mixture. With a large wooden spoon, gradually incorporate dry ingredients into liquids in the center well.
3. Beat in 1/2 cup of the butter and continue beating until dough forms ball (I needed to add about 1/2 – 3/4 cup of flour to get the dough to form a ball). Use a food processor or dough hook for beating, if desired.
4. Place ball on floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic, incorporating more flour as necessary, a little at a time.
5. Butter the inside of a large bowl with 1 tablespoon of the butter. Place dough in bowl and turn so the entire surface will be buttered. Cover bowl and set aside for 1 to 1 1/2 hours, or until doubled in bulk.
6. Brush a large baking sheet with remaining butter. Punch dough down on lightly floured surface. Knead, then pat and shape dough into a cylinder about 14 inches long. Alternately, you can divide the dough into three 14 inch long cylinders and braid it together. Place on baking sheet and form into a ring. Press coin or doll well into dough so that it doesn't show. Set aside again to rise for about 45 to 60 minutes.
7. When ready to bake, beat together one egg and 1 tbsp. of milk and brush the top and sides of the ring. Bake in middle of oven at 375 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes, or until golden brown. Slide cake onto wire rack to cool.
8. **Icing:** Combine the confectioners' sugar, lemon juice and 3 tablespoons of water in a deep bowl; stir until the icing smooth. If too stiff to spread, beat in 1 teaspoon water at a time, until desired consistency is reached. It should be thin enough to run slowly down the sides of the cake. Spread the icing over the top of the cake, letting it to run down the sides.
9. Sprinkle the colored sugars over the icing immediately, forming a row of purple, yellow, and green strips, on both sides of the ring.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE OF THE CHIMES

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*Accountant, Taffy Tippett*

*Director of Music, Mary Ellen Strahm*

*Handbell Choir Director, Chuck Archer*

*Missionary, Barbara Robertson*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## CHRISTMAS FLORAL MEMORIALS

Don't Forget to Order your Poinsettia Memorial for the Christmas Season.

**DEADLINE FOR ALL Poinsettia ORDERS WILL BE DECEMBER 16th**

**Cost: \$11.00 (6 1/2" -2 plants per pot with foil)**

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of



Color Choice \_\_\_\_\_Red \_\_\_\_\_Pink \_\_\_\_\_White \_\_\_\_\_Jingle bell \_\_\_\_\_Burgundy

Total Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ multiplied by \$ 11.00 = Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

**To Adorn the Church this Christmas Season we would like to give:**

Outdoor Christmas Wreathes and Indoor Artificial Greens \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We give this gift in memory of / in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_