



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church located in Miamisburg, Ohio, Established in 1819 December 2021

President's Chapel

Dear Siblings in Christ,

December 1, 2021

Well, what a difference a year makes. Last December, I sadly and very reluctantly announced that Christmas Eve would be a virtual service. Thankfully, we are very excited to return to our traditional Christmas Service roots and will have a fabulous **in-person Christmas Eve Vigil Service at 8:00 PM on Friday December 24, 2021!** I am so grateful to be back in our Sanctuary during Advent and Christmas, and I hope our service will be another big community event. For starters, we will again host Veronika Stanichar, an extremely talented high school harpist who is concurrently studying at the University of Cincinnati School of Music. ***Plan to be in church at least 15-20 minutes early to hear her extended Christmas prelude,*** and she will accompany us on several songs. Of course, Christmas is likely Doug McCabe's favorite season, so his great talents will lead us through many of our favorite hymn traditions. Invite your family and friends, and get excited about attending our service to welcome the newly born Lord Jesus into our collective families! For those who cannot attend in person, we'll have the service simulcast so you can be with us that evening. The website (www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org) always has the simulcast zoom link. In the event you are travelling, I'll be sure to post the service so you can watch at your leisure.

After Christmas, we need to lay out what the next few months looks like for our Congregation. We will have in person worship on Sunday morning December 26th, at the usual 10:00 AM, and this service, as always, will also be simulcast. As we move into January, it will be time to plan for our annual congregation meeting on Sunday, January 23rd, so mark that date. Planning for 2022 budget will be a bit of a guessing game regarding income and expenses because we have an active call request and we don't know when a candidate may emerge. We'll plan on a supply or new interim for at least 6 months, and hopefully will close in on a candidate by the second half of 2022. Once Council looks at and approves this draft 2022 budget, the congregation will vote on it on January 23, 2022 in an in-person Congregational meeting after church service. (We will simulcast this right after service as well, so people can still participate in the Annual Meeting even if they are not at church.) Part of this meeting will be devoted to replacing our one council members rotating off (Don Pabst – *THANK YOU for your service these last 2 years!*)

(continued on next page)

Lastly – The Christmas forest is up, and we urge your support. You can choose an individual gift tag for one of the 6 children we are supporting, or designate a cash donation to Helping Hands and/or Jeremiah's Letter. If you select a child's gift, **have it wrapped and at church by December 15, 2021.** For the cash gifts, you can deposit a cash or check in the offering plate, or go to our website (www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org), click on "Donate now", and select the charity of your choice.

The President's mailbox is always open (president@stjohnsmiamisburg.org) if you have questions or comments. On behalf of Linda and myself, enjoy Advent and Merry Christmas!

In Christ's Love,

Brian Kent, President, St. John's

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 12th, the children will be presenting "Living Word" during the service. Please come to enjoy the program the children always put on for us.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Orders for your Christmas Poinsettias must be turned into the church by Sunday, December 12th. Look for the order forms which will be included in Sunday's bulletin and place in offering plate or call the church office, 937-866-3780 to place your order. Poinsettias will decorate the church on Christmas Eve and may be taken home following the services. Donations may also be made to Helping Hands.



WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY

All women from the church are invited to Cheryl Page's home at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 6th for WELCA's annual Christmas party. There will be a gift exchange, food and fellowship, and it's a lot of fun. If you are planning on coming, please bring a wrapped gift for the exchange.

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Caroling will be a little different this year. With the restrictions on visitors at Nursing Homes, St. John's will be Christmas Caroling here at church and it will be recorded. The recording will then be heard via telephone to the shut ins and nursing homes. After church please meet upstairs for lunch and a singing. Please contact Nancy Andrews 937-307-1674 for questions.



CHRISTMAS FOREST

The Christmas Forest has tags for three families with a total of six children, from the Miamisburg School District. There also is tags for Jeremiah's Letter (specific items requested are: cleaning supplies, towels & wash cloths, dishes, plastic cups, twin sheet sets and can soups and pasta's) and Helping Hands (nonperishable food). Items must be at church by Sunday, December 19th. Monetary donations will be used to purchase gifts. Please contact Cheryl Page (937-602-7952) for more information.

MITTEN TREE

The mitten tree is located between the double doors and ready to be decorated with mittens, gloves, scarves and hats. What is collected will go to Sally Royer at Miamisburg City Schools to help keep our Miamisburg youth warm this winter!

SONRISE BREAKFAST

We are collecting coats, hats, gloves, blankets, shoes, and any items to help people stay warm in the winter. If you have any that you don't need, please put them in the bin in the narthex. If you would like to help with Sonrise breakfast, contact Beth Knight.

ALL SAINT'S DAY

On Sunday, November 7th we celebrated our saints that had passed last year.

The faith family tree was made by the Sunday school classes. The tree had leafs with messages from the children.



The following was received from Helping Hands. Thanks again to everyone who made the Bread & Shred event a success.

Helping Hands Food Pantry



November 12, 2021

To St. John's Lutheran Church

Thank you very much for your generous donation of 114 lb. of food that you brought to Miamisburg Helping Hands food pantry. We appreciate this support that you gave to help us carry out our mission. We provide food to people of need in the Miamisburg community and your donation supports this effort.

So far in 2021 we have served 1457 households and 4413 individuals. When clients visit the pantry, we give the average household about 50 lbs. of food, (more to larger families) plus bread, milk, meat, eggs, and any fresh produce we may have to offer.

We applaud your efforts and are very grateful since there are those in our community unable to provide food and basic needs for their families. Thank you for thinking of us and for being a Helping Hands donor.

Sincerely,
Miamisburg Helping Hands
Sandy Winter, Secretary



The office will be closed
December 24th thru
December 31st and re-open on
January 3rd.

I hope everyone has a safe and
happy holiday. See you next
year!
Karen



DID YOU KNOW.....

You can listen to Sunday's service on your telephone?

It's easy, at 9:50 on Sunday morning –dial 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 880 1708 9351

Passcode: 149911

And of course Simulcast Sunday Service is still available.
Please use the following logon information for upcoming
Zoom services.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88017089351?pwd=aEI5OWRyWGVYSHM0SFJ1cFRuOUZmdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 1708 9351

Passcode: 149911



Budget Report for October 2021

Income for October 2021: **\$7,190.30**

Expenses for October 2021:

Outreach	\$250.00
Staff	\$2,250.70
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$869.77
Roof Loan Payment	\$270.75
Utilities	\$414.48
Committees	(\$11.04)
	\$4,044.66

October Budget Balance (income - expenses): **\$3,145.64**

Year to Date Income: **\$71,452.82**

Year to Date Expenses: **\$57,185.84**

Description of categories:

Outreach: Benevolence, special benevolence.

Staff: Pastor's pay and expenses, staff salaries and benefits, FICA, worker's comp.

Facility Upkeep/Administration: Maintenance/repair and office expenses.

Property Insurance: paid once a year in April.

Roof Loan: Monthly payment for fellowship hall roof repair loan from endowment.

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Gas, electricity, water and trash services.



December 1
Eva Mae Cox
Beth Knight
December 4
Ryley Lamb
December 11
Mary Wilson
December 13
Jesse Nauta
December 19
Harley Lamb
Sondy Johnson
December 27
Pat McGraw
December 30
Bailey Smith

Congregational Contacts

Council Members

Brian Kent	*President
Don Pabst	*Vice President
Linda Kent	*Church Treasurer
Cathy Zimmer	*Secretary
Judy Kuemmel	*Financial Secretary
Garry Andrews	
Ida Geary	

***Executive Committee**

937-885-3529/937-572-3025
937-470-2404
937-885-3529/937-572-7815
937-212-9283
937-321-1198
937-848-2090
937-626-7765

Organizations, Boards and Staff

Karen Doyle	Church Secretary/Messenger Editor	937-866-3780
Tom Hoffman	Board of Trustees Chairman	937-859-8871/937-654-1218
Cheryl Page	Discipleship Committee Chairman	937-602-7952
Brook Nauta	Learning Committee Chair	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Ida Geary	WELCA President	937-626-7765
Doug McCabe	Organist	937-866-8669
Brook Nauta	Children's Choir	513-217-0564/937-367-1473

Christian Education

Barb Hoffman	Pre-k through 1 st Grade	937-859-8871/937-231-6341
Brook Nauta	2 nd Grade through 6 th Grade	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Robin Skelding	Confirmation	937-748-5405

Ministry Contacts

Nancy McCabe	Prayer Chain	937-866-8669
Kim Naylor	Son-Rise Breakfast @ First Lutheran	937-903-8638



December 14
David and Cheryl Page
December 18
Gary and Debbie Ball



St. John's Lutheran

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
470 S. Gebhart Church Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342
Phone: 937-866-3780
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
Web: www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org
Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org



Whats Happening in December

- Dec. 5, after church - luncheon and "Christmas Caroling"
- Dec. 6, 6:00 p.m. @ Cheryl Pages home – WELCA Christmas Party ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!
- Dec. 12, 10:00 a.m. – Children's Christmas Program "Living Word"
- Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. - Learning Committee Meeting
- Dec. 19 6:00 a.m. - SonRise Breakfast
- Dec. 24 8:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 24 – Dec. 31 – Office Closed