



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

February 2024

People of St. John's,

It is good to be with you! I joined you right before the holiday season and that's a hard time to get to know people. Christmas means family and travel and an interruption from "normal". It's the "normal" you I've been eager to know. I'm thrilled to report that, as normal has resumed, I've been able to meet many of you individually. I'm hoping that continues!

My early report after getting to know you deeper: I like you! I'm thrilled to be here and want many bright years together.

There is some work we can do to help ensure a long, mutually beneficial relationship. Consider a marriage: when a couple first comes to me as pastor and wants to get married, I rejoice with them. It's a huge deal. I then talk about pre-marital counseling ahead of the wedding. I have skills and tools to impart that will help a couple in their "happily ever after" pursuits. Yet, many couples scoff and want nothing to do with pre-marriage counseling. They only want me to officiate their "perfect day", missing the bigger picture of life together. I suppose at that age, I knew everything too, and wasn't as open to learning as I should have been.

As a new pastor here, I also bring helpful tools for our life together. I'm hopeful that we, collectively, are wiser than the stereotypical soon-to-be newlyweds. I'd like to share some tools and learnings with you for our life together. Toward that end, I'm offering a Lenten series called "Healthy Congregations". It's a program written to help healthy churches stay that way. It celebrates what's working and helps us to be set up for success going forward.

(Continued on next page)

Wednesday evenings at 7 pm, anyone willing to invest themselves in the health of our church and future is invited for learnings and conversations. This will include video, lessons, and discussions. This is a program I have used elsewhere and have come to treasure. I want to share it with you. Are you able and willing to join us? Together, let's grow in Christ. I leave you with these words from St. Paul:

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (I Corinthians 13:11-13)

Blessings,
Pastor John

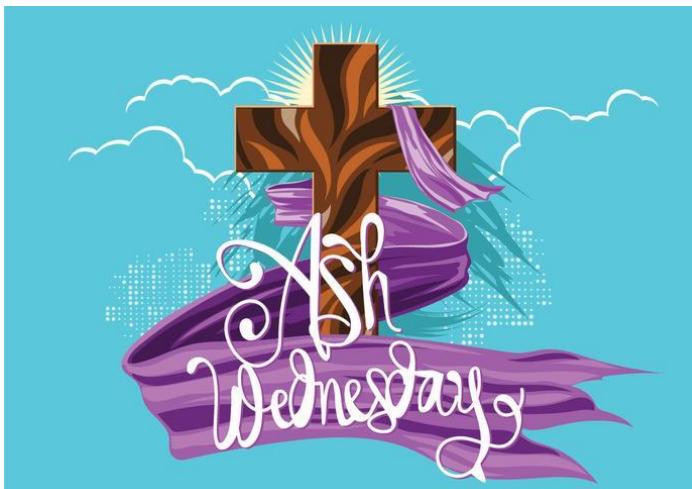


pancake breakfast



Join us for some fun before we move into the season of Lent, with pancakes and fellowship on February 11th at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Pancake decorating, races, and a search for alleluias are optional.



February 14 at 7:00 p.m.
Service will also air via ZOOM.

Join Zoom Meeting – this information is for ASH WEDNESDAY.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89799290986?pwd=Y1BBSmdxdHdDZHd4bU5XY2s0UVAwZz09>

Meeting ID: 897 9929 0986

Passcode: 503764

Dial by your location

- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Game Night!!!



On Saturday, January 27th, we had a great night of games and fellowship.

Stay tuned for details for the next game night!



ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

Thrivent members are eligible for participating in the Thrivent Choice program, where up to \$250 per project can be requested. These projects are intended for outreach programs, not the general expenses of the congregation, and could be requested for such events and activities as the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, Shred & Bread fundraiser, Christmas Forest, School Supplies, and any other outreach activities that our congregation supports.

How can you help? Contact your Thrivent representative to see if your membership makes you eligible for the Thrivent Choice program.

If you are eligible, please let Linda Kent or Karen Doyle know so that we can create a list of Thrivent members within the congregation.



Join Zoom Meeting on Sundays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85711628176?pwd=V0dOK21vekJqNTIwM3hOT2UyNzkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 857 1162 8176

Passcode: 071964

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,85711628176#,,,,*071964# US (New York)

+13017158592,,85711628176#,,,,*071964# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 857 1162 8176

Passcode: 071964

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85711628176?pwd=V0dOK21vekJqNTIwM3hOT2UyNzkyQT09>

REMINDER

You can always find the Zoom link for the simulcast Sunday services on St. John's website:

www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org

Click on the "In-Person Worship and Simulcast Link" menu option near the top of the home page.



Budget Report for December 2023

Income for December 2023: **\$11,700.87**

Expenses for December 2023:

Outreach	\$334.00
Staff	\$6,709.74
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,507.37
Property Insurance	\$438.83
Utilities	\$647.74
Committees	\$30.93
	\$9,668.61

December Budget Balance (income - expenses): **\$2,032.26**

YTD Income: **\$94,728.24**
YTD Expenses: **\$91,360.22**

Description of categories:

Outreach: Benevolence, special benevolence.

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

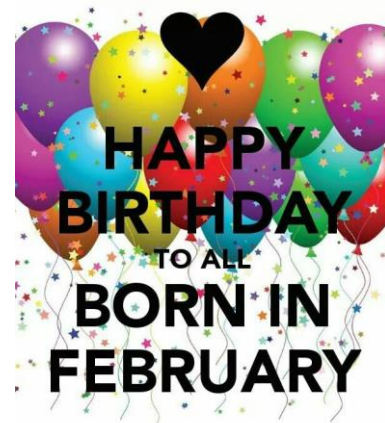
Conference: Council retreat.

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

Property Insurance: paid monthly

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Gas, electricity, water and trash services.



February 1
 Allen Jackson
 February 3
 Priscilla Goldie
 Linda Kent
 February 5
 Traci Smith
 February 9
 Tom Hoffman
 February 11
 Molly Brewer
 February 12
 Joe Wilson
 February 17
 Gary Ball
 February 18
 Joyce Petticrew
 February 28
 Diane Naylor
 David Page

Congregational Contacts

Pastor John Czarnota Pastor 920-642-3363

Council Members

Allen Jackson	*Recording Secretary	937-672-7888
Linda Kent	*Church Treasurer	937-885-3529/937-572-7815
Judy Kuemmel	*Financial Secretary	937-321-1198
Ida Geary		
Cindy Kemper		937-367-2341
Julie Heltter		937-232-3378
Cathy Zimmer		937-212-9283

***Executive Committee**

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

Beth Knight	Pre-k through 1 st Grade	937-330-692-2092
Barb Hoffman		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
--------------	--------------	--------------



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-T-T-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Web: www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org

Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| • February 3 | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • February 4 | 1:00 p.m. | Area 56 |
| • February 10 | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • February 11 | 9:00 a.m. | Pancake Breakfast |
| • February 13 | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #3330-2023 |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Council Meeting |
| • February 14 | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Wednesday Service |
| • February 17 | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • February 21 | 7:00 p.m. | Lenten Series |
| • February 24 | 10:00 a.m. | Area 56 Assembly |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • February 27 | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #3330-2023 |
| • February 28 | 7:00 p.m. | Lenten Series |

Sunday's at 7:30 p.m. - AA/AI Anon meets in Fellowship Hall

Monday's & Friday's at noon - AA Group meets in Fellowship Hall

*Please notify the office of any meetings and/or events that need to be included in the calendar.
This will ensure rooms are not double booked.*