

SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 7, 2023:

NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Christmas - New Year's Eve

9:00 am Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 am Fellowship (Friendship Hall)



NEXT MONDAY: Happy New Year!

Church Office Closed
No Chair Yoga and No Bible Study

TUESDAY: 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

7:00 pm AI-Anon Meeting (Friendship Hall)
7:00 pm Scout Troop #7419 (Room 113)

WEDNESDAY: 9:00 am Yin Yoga (Friendship Hall and on-line)

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
11:45 am Fellowship (Narthex)

THURSDAY: 9:00 am Pastors Pericope Study (Conference Room)

6:30 pm AI-Anon Meeting (Friendship Hall)
7:00 pm Venture Crew #2419 (Room 113)

SATURDAY: Epiphany

NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday of Christmas

9:00 am Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 am Fellowship (Friendship Hall)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VIEWING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

A live-stream of our worship service can be viewed on Sundays at 9:00 am on the congregation's YouTube Channel, accessible from the congregation's web-site, www.sjlc-elca.org/worship-online/. Video recordings of worship services are available for viewing at the congregation's web-site, www.sjlc-elca.org. The Sunday worship service is broadcast one week delayed on JATV, cable channel 994, on Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

PRAY FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION:

Eugene E., Family of Kathleen, Family of Linda Aegerter, John A., Skip, Carl L., Patty M., Erin V., Shelly V., Rachel D., Terrin, Kealy, Tom W., Jim L., Olaf H., Patricia V., Shawn, Boyd C., Dave K., Buck W., Bob W., Billie B., Chris D., Susan H., Roy P., Jennifer H., Trudy, Carl L., Lori B., Bill E., Penny J., Dennis, Blaine, Judi M., and all of our brothers and sisters in need of prayer.

☎ Please call the congregation office if you or family members are hospitalized. The hospitals cannot be relied on to inform us.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2024 are here! We are asking that you pick up your envelopes when you are here for worship, instead of having them mailed. Boxed sets of envelopes for the entire year are provided for each household. The boxes are in the Narthex. If you do not see a set of envelopes with your name, please call the church office at 608-752-3159. We have extra sets in the office and will be happy to prepare a box of envelopes for you. We also want to correct the database if there are errors. Thank you for your help!

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Thank you to all those who participated in this year's hanging of the greens and Christmas decorating. We will extend our Christmas adornments one day past the Epiphany of our Lord. **De-decorating will take place following worship service on January 7, 2024.** Because many hands make light work, we hope you can join us for a few minutes that day.



A LOOK at the BUDGET

BUDGET Q AND A FOR 2024

Please plan to join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 14th at 10:30 am, for a review of the 2024 Congregational Budget. Printed copies of the proposed budget will be available at the start of the meeting. Congregational Council members and officers will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. The Annual Meeting will be held on January 28, 2024 at 10:30 am in Friendship Hall.

Please plan to attend both of these meetings; we want to hear your input!

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION!

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of St John Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 10:30 am in Friendship Hall. All members of the congregation are invited to attend. Confirmed and/or adult members of the congregation who have communed and contributed in the previous two years are entitled to vote on the budget and new representatives to the Council. **We need your presence and your input at this meeting! Please join us as we chart our future!**



Merry CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

- 9:00 am, Sunday, December 31, 2023 – **1st Sunday of Christmas** – Holy Communion.



GIVING TREE 2024

Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to our Giving Tree projects. Gifts were received for ECHO, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran World Relief, ELCA Disaster Relief, the GIFTS Men's Shelter, House of Mercy Shelter, the 16:49 Project for homeless teens, the Salvation Army, the Rock County Cancer Coalition. Your kindness will be felt in our own community and in communities all around the world in this coming New Year!

WREATHS FOR CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone who contributed generously to provide Christmas wreaths, Christmas trees, and altar flowers for our Worship space for the Christmas season. Thanks as well to everyone who helped to arrange these gifts and to all who carried boxes and decorations and prepared our Worship space.



SKAALEN HOME CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Two handmade shawls, two lap robes, two shirts, two baseball caps, men's shower gel, and handmade cloth bags for carrying things, were provided by our congregation. Skaalen Nursing and Rehab Center were very pleased with our generosity and knew right away which residents would like each of the gifts! Thank you to the special folks who provided these thoughtful gifts and helped to make hearts feel their love at this holy season!

Sunday Dec. 31 — First Sunday of Christmas

Readings:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Monday January 1, 2024 – Name of Jesus

Readings: Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:15-21

Prayer of the Day:

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in ever heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Tues – Jan 2	Proverbs 1:1-7	James 3:13-18	Psalm 148
Wed – Jan 3	Proverbs 1:20-33	James 4:1-10	Psalm 110
Thur – Jan 4	Proverbs 3:1-12	James 4:11-17	Psalm 110
Fri – Jan 5	Proverbs 22:1-9	Luke 6:27-31	Psalm 110

Sat – Jan 6 – Epiphany of Our Lord

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

Prayer of the Day:

O God, on this day you reveled your son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sunday Jan 7 – Second Sunday of Christmas

Readings: Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.