SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**The week OF january 7 – JANUARY 14, 2023:**

**NEXT SUNDAY: Baptism of Our Lord**

 9:00 am Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)

 10:15 am Fellowship (Friendship Hall)

**NEXT MONDAY**: 10:00 am Chair Yoga (Friendship Hall)

 12:00 pm Bible Study (Conference Room)

**TUESDAY:** 2:30 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting (Conference Room)

6:30 pm Council Meeting (Conference Room)

7:00 pm Al-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)**

6:00 pm Ministry Outreach (Conference Room)

 6:30 pm Al-Anon District Meeting (Friendship Hall)

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

 6:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting (Friendship Hall)

**NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday after Epiphany**

 9:00 am Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)

 10:15 am Fellowship (Friendship Hall)

 **10:30 am Budget Q & A (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/](http://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](http://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:**

Mary S., 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.***

**Our congregation extends their sympathy and prayers** **to the family of Linda Aegerter,** who died on December 25, 2023. Services for Linda were held at St John Lutheran Church on January 2, 2024.

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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**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!

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**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 THIS MORNING, January 7, 2024.** Because many hands make light work, we hope you can join us for a few minutes this morning.

**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, and the Rock County Cancer Coalition. Additional gifts were received even this past weekend. See the updated bulletin insert for final details. Your kindness will be felt in our own community and in communities all around the world in this coming New Year!

**BUDGET Q AND A FOR 2024**

Please plan to join us in Friendship Hall on Sunday, January 14th at 10:30 am, for snacks and coffee and 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!**

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**AGRACE OFFERS VIRTUAL GRIEF SUPPORT IN FEBRUARY**

Local adults and children living in southern Wisconsin who are grieving can find hope and healing with the help of grief support specialists at Agrace. This February, Agrace hosts “Bridges,” a virtual support group for adults who are grieving the death of a person. This group provides emotional and peer support in a professionally led group setting and requires advance registration. Bridges meets Tuesday, February 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., via Zoom. There is no fee for Agrace grief support if a participant’s family member was served by Agrace Hospice Care or another hospice in the past 12 months. Modest fees may apply for others, and fees can be lowered or waived, if needed. One-on-one grief support is also available by phone or video chat. This support is open to *anyone*, even if the person who died did not have hospice care. To make an appointment or register for a grief group, visit Agrace.org/GriefGroups, call (608) 327-7110, or email griefsupport@agrace.org.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AGRACE’S HOSPICE SERVICES**

Agrace is seeking volunteers in Rock County and surrounding areas and will host a volunteer orientation training in February to help them prepare for their roles.

Volunteering may involve reading aloud, listening to music together, playing cards, assisting with meal delivery, or simply being there as a caring presence. No previous health care experience is necessary. Orientation for volunteers will be held Tuesday, February 20, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Agrace Janesville campus. For more information, or to get started, fill out an online application at Agrace.org/Volunteer or call Agrace at (608) 327-7163. All new volunteers will discuss their skills and interests with Agrace’s Volunteer Services staff before attending orientation.

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| **Sunday Jan 7 – Baptism of Our Lord****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. |
| **Mon – Jan 8** | Genesis 17:1-13 | Romans 4:1-12 | Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 |
| **Tues – Jan 9** | Exodus 30:22-38 | Acts 22::2-16 | Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 |
| **Wed – Jan 10** | Isaiah 41:4-12 | John 1:29-34 | Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 |
| **Thur – Jan 11** | Judges 2:6-15 | 2 Corinthians 19L1-11 | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 |
| **Fri – Jan 12** | Judges 2:16-23 | Acts 13:16-25 | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 |
| **Sat – Jan 13** | 1 Samuel 2:21-25 | Matthew 25:1-13 | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 |
| **Sunday Jan 14 – Second Sunday after Epiphany****Readings:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10, Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51**Prayer of the Day:** Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  |