

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

CALLED TO WORSHIP / COMMITTED TO SERVE / CONNECTED IN FAITH

January 2020

A monthly Publication of  
St. John Lutheran Church

Worship Schedule

Saturday Worship

6:00 PM

Sunday Worship

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Pastors

Pastor Mark Johnson

Pastor Sarah Timian

Office Staff

Jillmarie Stich

Audrey Zellman

Treasurer

Rae Fimon

Custodians

Curt & Cheryl Johnson

Organists

Eileen Hanlon

Diane West

Choir Director

Bri Bergstrom

Accompanist

Sheila Schmidt

148 S. Chestnut St.  
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

952-873-6492  
office@stjohnbelleplaine.org  
Web: stjohnbelleplaine.org

## Congregational Meeting



### Mark it on Your Calendar!

January 26th will be

St. John's Annual Congregational Meeting

Note the times

8:00 Worship Service

9:15 Sunday School

9:15 Annual Meeting

## *From Pastor Mark*

Let me just begin by saying “thank you” to those of you who shared a kind card and gift and goodies with my family and I during this past Christmas season. It’s always a festive and fun time of the year and your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

And now comes January. One year rolls over into another. Time, in its slow, relentless manner, marches on. The Greek philosopher Heraclitus is famous for saying, “You can never step into the same river twice.” On the face of it, that seems ridiculous. You say, “Of course I can step into the same stream twice. I put my foot in, pull it out, plunge it in again and there you have it!” But, if you really think about it, in very subtle ways it is not exactly the same. The water that surrounded your foot the first time is now downstream a few feet from where it was. Internally, your heart has beat and the blood has moved some inches through your body from where it was. The air in your lungs has changed. Your hair has grown and pushed out a tiny fraction of a millimeter.

The changes are so small and blend into one another so seamlessly that we don’t notice them. But added up, over the minutes and hours and days and years, they remind us that the only thing constant in this world is change. The face that looks back at me in the mirror these days resembles but is not the same face that looked back at me last year. And it is certainly not the face of many years ago when I actually had hair hanging down into my eyes! Things have changed.

Heraclitus was right. We can’t step into the same river twice. We float, like a leaf, on the endlessly moving current of time. Isaac Watts, a great hymnwriter (1674 – 1748) reflects on this idea in his hymn, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past,” when he writes, “Time, like an ever rolling stream, soon bears us all away; We fly forgotten, as a dream, dies at the opening day.” Mortality frames and defines this earthly life. My Dad used to put it, “We go the way of all flesh.” As I write this, his image stares out at me from a picture in my office, a young man in his twenties. And yet now, it has been twenty five years since he has gone the way of all flesh.

Confronted with this truth of our mortality and the limited time we have here, what shall we do? From one point of view, we can lapse into hopeless and meaningless despair. What’s the point? We are like ants, busy and scurrying and scraping our little piles together and obsessed with details that, ultimately, over the vast ocean of time, disappear like a vanity and a chasing after the wind. What is the point, except to sink ourselves in materialism and the brief creature comforts that we have until the game is over. The point of our existence becomes reduced to the old beer commercial slogan, “You only go around once in life, so grab for all the gusto you can.”

On the other hand, we have the option to quiet our mind, step off the busy carousel of distraction, and open ourselves in faith to a greater truth that extends beyond these present and fleeting limitations. From this point of view, the landscape of meaningless despair changes. Isaac Watts, in his fine hymn, writes, “Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same. A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.”

And here we come to the heart of the matter – that even though with each beat of my heart like a drummer I march toward my last earthly breath, yet as this current of time bears me toward that final waterfall where I plunge over into the darkness, I can know that underneath this everflowing and changing current I am likewise being borne and held in the everlasting arms. Beneath this mortal current is its author and maker, silently holding me in a sure hand so that when the final plunge over the waterfall of mortality takes me, the darkness of that loosing of these mortal bonds will not be the end of me but I will be borne and carried in those unseen hands to a place of higher ground.

As I write this, I am listening to that great piece of music from “The Messiah,” where Handel, quoting St. Paul in the Scriptures, writes, “The trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised, incorruptible.” St. Paul goes on, “For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable and this mortal nature must put on immortality....Who shall deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

It is our faith in Christ, who himself descended into our mortal nature, lived, died and rose again, that makes all the difference. God himself, in the person of Christ, has stepped into this mortal stream and joined hands with his frail creatures of dust. And by faith in him, through the grace and forgiveness he offers, we can rest in the assurance that there is more than this present and fleeting existence. And even more than that, this brief and present existence, graced with God enfleshed among us, has been given over to the larger meaning and purpose of compassion and care for one another. For, in the end, this is all that will matter. The accumulation of our things will be swept away, and the larger purpose of conforming ourselves to the image of Christ in love and compassion for others will be

## **From Pastor Sarah**

### **A BLANK PAGE**

That's how it always begins.

There's something both exciting and terrifying about opening up a notebook or computer file and facing that empty space. Anything could be written on it. There's incredible potential and possibility there.

There's a chance that whatever fills that page will be important. It could be what the world, or at least someone in it, needs to hear. However, there might also be an obligation to make it so somehow— to find a way to put something together that will be poignant and helpful.

It's not all that different from everything else we do.

Each day, we get up and interact with the world. The story of our day is written as we live out the minutes and hours in front of us. There is amazing potential in that, but there can be a sense of pressure to make something significant out of it, too.

We are just beginning the new year of a new decade. Millions of people around the world will be celebrating this turning of the calendar with resolutions and commitments to do something different— better, more meaningful— with the days ahead. It's a time when we get to be intentional about what we want this next year to look like. At the very least, it's a fresh chapter in our ongoing story.

There is something special about starting a new year. The days on the calendar aren't filled yet— there are blank pages waiting to be lived. Anything and everything feels possible. We could start the adventure of a lifetime. We could deepen and expand the story. We could try something new or remember an old tradition.

It's a time when we get to be intentional. We get to decide where we want to see this next chapter— day, year, decade— go, and then we get to live it out. There might be unexpected plot twists. There might be characters and events we didn't anticipate. We might not create the prize-winning literature we'd hoped to produce.

Then again, we might do just that. We might find the exact story we'd hoped for filling the pages of our days ahead. We might find one that's even better, where we discover that the story we wanted was actually less than the one we ended up living.

No matter what tale you end up spinning, one thing is certain: it can't be done without you. You are the one living it, after all. You get to be intentional and decide what to do. You get to write the next sentence, and then the next. You get to see where your story takes you.

Start with a blank page— that's how it always begins.

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### **“Noisy Offering” - First Sunday of Each Month**

Our Sunday School is sponsoring a “Noisy Offering” the first Sunday of each month. During our regular offering time, our kids are invited to bring an offering up to the front of the church and put it in a jar. It's noisy and fun and generous. And it's fun to watch our children run and walk and smile and look serious and be joyful and giving and full of life.

Please mark your calendar and bring some extra money for your child to share on these first Sundays. And, if you don't have a child, give some money to one you see and ask them to run it up for you. That way, we can all contribute together. Thanks!

## *From Pastor Mark (cont.)*

the only thing that finally remains.

So as another year dawns, and another crease of time marks a furrow in your brow, look at yourself in the mirror and realize that underneath it all the God of time and eternity knows you and loves you and cares for you deeply. Know that, come what may in the subtle currents and changes of life, you are being held in the everlasting arms. Life is good. Life is worthwhile. Life has been graced with a larger meaning and purpose. Life is about reaching out in compassion and care to the others who float along with us on the currents of this mortal journey, until in the Lord's good time, time passes into eternity and we see him face to face. Until then, keep looking up.

Happy New Year!

-Pastor Mark

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### January Children's Ministry Update

Happy New Year! We pray the 2020 year has many blessings in store for you and your family.

We would like to thank all the children who participated in the Christmas program. "Grandma & Grandpa's Nativity Story" was a unique and fun way for the Sunday School Children to share the story of Jesus' birth. We hope you enjoyed the program as much as we did! It took many hours of planning and practice for the program to come together. A BIG thank you to all of the children, parent volunteers and teachers. Thank you to Rachel Kelm for teaching our youth ALL of their songs and playing piano as well.

Our first story theme of 2020 will be "Jonah". The Book of Jonah tells all about God's loving mercy and forgiveness. Jonah and the whale is a favorite story among children.

#### **Important Dates:**

**Sunday, January 26th:** Sunday School Children sing during 8am service

Annual Meeting during Sunday School Hour - movie and snacks in youth room for children

#### **Connect Update**

Thank you to our Connect and Confirmation students and parents that helped with our Sunday School Christmas Program. Many students took an active role in helping with greeting, passing out bulletins, assisting our teachers with younger classes, and /or helping to serve Jesus' birthday cake.

Scheduling Note: **There is NO CONNECT CLASS on January 1st or 8th.**

Our January lessons will continue to focus on the Old Testament of the Bible.

**The next Children's Ministry meeting will be Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm. Please join us!**

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### **Men's Monday Morning Bible Study**

The Men's Monday Morning Bible Study group will begin a study on the Gospel of John, Monday, January 6, 2020. The group will use a Bible Study Guide written by N. T. Wright as the basis for the study. The Gospel of John is an interesting Gospel. At one level it is the simplest of all the Gospels, at another level it is the most profound. Come to this Bible Study and see how John tells the story of God and the world. The group meets each Monday at Kingsway Retirement Living starting at 8am and lasts about an hour.

## Stewardship Spotlight



### Volunteer Focus On: Maddy Siekmann

Maddy Siekmann has lived her whole life, so far, in Belle Plaine; and has been a member at St. John for just as long. Currently a high school student in Chaska, she is a busy young woman who is involved in numerous extracurricular and volunteer activities. Through school she is a member of the key club, a club that performs volunteer works totaling 25 hours each year, on the speech team, in 2 different choirs, has acted in every play since she started high school, and manages to balance a few AP classes on top of all of that.

Maddy is the daughter of Brian and Deana Siekmann. Brian is a road inspector for MNDOT, and also 3<sup>rd</sup> Chief for the Belle Plaine Fire Department. Deana is the Director of the World Learner School in Chaska. The whole family is very active in church and community, trying to attend St. John each Sunday, and getting involved where needed. Needless to say, Maddy and her brother Leo are growing up as very active participants in their faith. Maddy cites her parents as her inspiration to volunteer, noting their example of public service, and she has been involved in numerous activities at St. John, including: helping with Sunday school, participating in both youth and adult choir, coordinating the quiet bags for young children to use during the service, and serving as co-chair for the ice cream social. She has also gone on 4 mission trips, and served as a representative for the church at the Synod meeting in Minneapolis.

When asked what she has enjoyed, or learned from doing these things, Maddy is happy to share. The Synod meeting gave her insight into the inner workings of church. She found it interesting to learn about the different jobs in the church; and was surprised to learn of its ability to take stances on various social and community issues. With regard to the mission trips, she says she originally joined in order to travel, but found them to be deeply moving experiences providing exposure to different cultures and socioeconomic conditions around the country. She has visited Colorado, the Quad Cities, Houston, and Wind River, WY, and has been involved in community makeovers, worked at daycare centers and nursing homes, and worked at a kids club and delivered food around the Wind River reservation. She really enjoys seeing different sides of America, meeting new people, and seeing that joy that helping people can bring.

In her free time she enjoys watching movies, playing the guitar, going to plays, and spending time with her family. During the summer you will often find her at her family's cabin up on Dead Lake, near Dent, MN. It has been in the family for 3 generations, and is a gathering spot for many of her relatives. When asked her plans for the future, she is adamant about joining the Air Force, whether it be through the ROTC program at the college she chooses, or attending the Air Force Academy in Colorado after graduating high school. She would ultimately like to pursue something in Civil or Aerospace engineering. Both of her great grandfathers, and her father have a history of military service, and Maddy hopes to follow in those footsteps.

Faith, and helping others are focal points in her life. In Maddy's words, "God Is Good."

Thank you to Maddy, and to all our members who share their time and talents with St. John!

**Your Gifts Make a Difference  
Thank You**

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### *The Newsletter is on our Website*



Did you know you can view St. John's newsletter on the website? When you go to the website click on Connect and look on the pull down for "Our Newsletter". Click on that and choose the newsletter you want to read and click on the link.

To be notified by email that a new newsletter is available, go to "Join our newsletter" and submit a request to be placed on the list. You will then be taken off the mailing list for newsletters.

### *Are you interested in helping with videotaping our services?*

With the new equipment almost ready to go, we will be having training on how to run the new equipment. We would love to have more people involved in this. If you are interested in helping, please call the office to be placed on the list.

Thanks



# January 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Elroy Koepp Hope Lawler Sean Lawler Jenny Petty	2 Jonathan Schultz Diane Stier	3	4 Melissa Arola Todd Krugel Bradley Latzke
5 Matthew Fink Steve Latzke Megan Schmidt	6	7	8 Minnie Aust Donna Copper Violet Holtberg Olivia Jeurissen	9 Jason Gruhn	10	11 Joyce Chaves Owen Herrmann Shirley Laabs Jeff Petersen Jodi Savage McKinley Schwartz
12 Troy Armstrong Shannon Hansen Montana Meyer Ron Rasmussen Nolan Swenson	13 Kevin Bauleke	14 Sharon Adelmann Dale Schmidt Cynthia Schoenbauer	15 Arlene Latzke	16 Tanya Edwards Amanda Schultz	17	18
19 Earl Gransee Ryland Johnson Richard Peterson Pamela Shackle	20 Klara Hager Janah Hackers Ashton Holbrook Tammy Stier	21 Tara Henke	22 Brian Hillstrom	23 Scott Hagen Grant Johnson Aaron Leonard Dustin Llewellyn Alyssa Meierbachtol	24 Blake Andert Tony Theis Andre Westerfield	25 Jason Hagen Maxum Meyer Carol Schultz Joshua Wolf Terry Zellman
26 Thomas Chaves Jennifer Korbel Michael Kritzman	27 Elijah Hoff Noelle Hoff Joyce Laabs Pierce Nagorski Piper VanZummeren	28 Trevor Gruhn Mark Johnson Teresa Latzke Emily Nagel	29 Robin Burkman Stella Hansen	30 Bryan Holzemer Carter Johnson Garrett Korbel Renee Meuleners	31 Larry Hanson Kenton Wilson	

# January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 & 10:30 Worship Services 9:15 Sunday School			New Years Day Office Closed		12p High School Student Council meeting	7:00 Weight Watchers 10:00 Scrapbooking 6:00p Worship Service
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00 Men's Bible Study 6:30p Boy Scouts	10:00 Cardinal Ridge Service 11:00 Lutheran Home Service 1:00p Quilting 1:00p Kingsway Service	4:30p Youth Choir 6:00p Connect/Confirmation Leaders meeting 6:30p Adult Choir 7:00p Personnel Team meeting	8:15 Kindness Retreat 7:00p Stewardship Team meeting			7:00 Weight Watchers 6:00p Worship Service
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00 & 10:30 Worship Services 9:15 Sunday School 1:00p Cub Scout Pinewood Derby	8:00 Men's Bible Study 6:30p Boy Scouts	9:30 WELCA Bible Study 1:00p Quilting	4:30p Youth Choir 5:30p Pizza 6:00p Connect/Confirmation 6:30p Adult Choir	6:30p Church Council		7:00 Weight Watchers 6:00p Worship Service
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00 & 10:30 Worship Services 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Small Group/Faith Formation Team meeting	8:00 Men's Bible Study 6:30p Boy Scouts	1:00p Quilting	4:30p Youth Choir 5:15p Feed My Starving Children 6:30p Adult Choir			7:00 Weight Watchers
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8:00 Worship Service 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Annual Meeting	8:00 Men's Bible Study 6:30p Boy Scouts	1:00p Quilting	4:30p Youth Choir 5:30p Pizza 6:00p Connect/Confirmation 6:30p Adult Choir			

Unapproved St. John Lutheran Church Council Minutes  
December 19, 2019

President Chris Stier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Present:** Pastor Mark Johnson, Pastor Sarah Timian, Council Members; Brian Schmidt, Chris Zellman, Jim Eggers, Annette Moylan, Angie Kahle, Bob Fairbanks, Amy Franck. Staff: Curt Johnson and Treasurer, Rae Fimon

**Opening Devotions:** Pastor Mark led the devotions with the story of Joseph and Mary and the birth of Jesus from the book of Matthew. All present shared a Christmas memory, followed by a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** Members of Council reviewed the minutes from the November 20, 2019 Council Meeting. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes.

**Pastor Mark's Report:**

Pastor Mark met with local clergy and planned annual **Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service** which was held this year at East Union Lutheran Church. Eight congregations currently participate in our service together. Local clergy meet each month for fellowship and support and also for ideas of other ways we can work together and strengthen our relationships with each other.

**Nominating Committee** met in November and is currently working to fill the needed positions for our upcoming Annual Meeting in January. More information will be forthcoming as they work to finish their task.

Preparations and planning are underway for special **Christmas services** and, looking ahead to January, for year end reports for our Annual Meeting.

The **Pictorial Directory** is being proofed for final submission to the printer. Have not yet received a date when copies will be available for distribution to the congregation. All participants have received complimentary pictures.

Pastor Mark had one funeral in the past month and provided Cardinal Ridge, Lutheran Home, and Kingsway Holy Communion Services. Ongoing and continuing items include preparation and planning work for preaching, teaching, worship, counseling, reports and correspondences - along with regular visitation, staff and volunteer coordination etc.

**Pastor Sarah's Report**

**Youth Ministry**—Students are continuing to plan for next summer's Mission Trip to Vermont. In response to feedback about Scrip Card availability, a pre-order option was offered to anyone who wanted to purchase specific cards during the Christmas season. This seemed to be well received. The Youth will host a fundraising dinner on Saturday, January 25, with details to come in the newsletter and bulletin.

**Connect and Confirmation**—Students finished up the first half of the year on December 18. The programs will resume in the new year with a Leaders' Meeting on January 8, and classes as usual on January 15.

**Worship and Music**—The Saturday Evening Worship concluded the Advent Season with a pot-luck meal following the service on December 14. A Blue Christmas service will be held on Saturday, December 21, at 6:00 p.m. The Sunday School students will present their Christmas Program on Sunday, December 22, between the 8:00 and 10:30 services. Pastor Sarah had 2 baptisms in the past month and meetings with the St. Paul and Minneapolis Area Synods Ministerium, Luther Seminary; and clergy peer group

Ongoing Items—Worship Leadership for Saturday and Sunday Services; Meetings with Connect and Confirmation Leaders and Students; Pastoral Conversations and Visits; Ministry Team Meetings as needed and available; Planning and Preparation for events, meetings, newsletter articles, classes, communication pieces, mailings, worship services, etc.



### **Staff Report:**

**Custodial:** Curt reports that drinking fountains have been repaired at a cost of about \$500.00; the dishwasher has been repaired at a cost of about \$350.00. The front window on the church is leaking and will need repair. The padded arms on the 14 chairs in the Gathering area are showing wear and the padded portion will be removed. The chairs are still fully functional without the padding on the arms. Telephone repair was recently completed and all offices now have a phone in them. Snow removal was discussed and how to recruit volunteers when Curt and Cheryl are out of town. Further discussion on the video system; Curt will do the wiring to the nursery, and we are waiting for a part that will allow filming for longer than 1 hour. Equipment is up and running and any services under 1 hour are being completed. It was mentioned that the brown sign that was by Annie's that gave direction to our church has been damaged and contact should be made with the city to see if this will be replaced. Curt made a request for ceiling fans in the gathering area as there is a lot of heat that rises to the ceiling.

**Treasurer:** Rae reviewed the 2 new giving options that are now available; GivePlus is a smartphone app, and Text to Give is another option that can be managed on a phone. This information will be shared with the congregation in the newsletter, weekly bulletin and on the projector screen.

Rae reviewed that the General Fund was only \$766.00 under in revenue for November. Year to date our revenue is down, and expenses are also slightly lower than projected. Our net underfunding, revenue to expenses, stands at about \$20,295.00. The General fund revenue is up about 4% over last year but has had to borrow \$19,500.00 from the Building Fund this year. The Building Fund has a balance of about \$50,000.00 in the bank after loans to the General Fund. We are currently paying about \$9,000.00 in principal each month on our mortgage and the balance is approximately \$325,000.00 after the December payment. The Building Fund revenue is down about 9% from last year.

A question was asked about our investments and how they have performed. Ashton Pankonin will be at the January Council Meeting to review our investments with the Council.

**Transfers In - none**

**Transfers Out – none**

### **Ongoing Business**

**Budget:** The Council reviewed the 2020 Budget. Initial review was held at the November meeting and changes were discussed at that time. Rae provided the 2020 Budget with changes that had been discussed. The Council reviewed the budget with these changes. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2020 Operating Budget.

### **New Business.**

Pastor Sarah and Pastor Mark declared their housing allowances for calendar year 2020. Pastor Mark declared \$30,000.00 and Pastor Sarah declared \$18,000.00. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve each of their declarations.

### **Ministry Team Updates**

Many of the Ministry Teams did not meet during this busy holiday season.

**Children's Ministry** Christmas Program practice and preparation is keeping them very busy and excited. The program will be on December 22 between services.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Franck, Church Council Secretary

# JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<b>January 5 Worship Assistants</b>	
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> <b>Altar Guild:</b> Diane Skelley & Robin Fink	
<b>Pizza Helpers:</b> No Pizza– Leaders Meeting	
<b>8:00</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> Nolan Swenson & Caleb Eppen <b>Greeters:</b> Terry & Angie Kahle <b>Lay Readers:</b> Angie Kahle <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Pat Laabs & Renee Meuleners <b>Ushers:</b> Brent Schwichtenberg, Greg Schwichtenberg, Steve Schmidt, Mikkel Schmidt	<b>10:30</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> <b>Greeters:</b> Lou & Peg Longhenry <b>Lay Readers:</b> Caren Grotberg <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Lee Sauter & Midge Bessel <b>Ushers:</b> Chris & Annette Moylan, Mike & Zach Olson, Jason & Trevor Gruhn, Steve Schroeder

<b>January 12 Worship Assistants</b>	
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> <b>Altar Guild:</b> Diane Skelley & Robin Fink	
<b>Pizza Helpers:</b> Holly Stier & Cassie Gerres <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> Brenda Holtberg & Angie Kahle	
<b>8:00</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> Josh Sparby & Lydia Sparby <b>Greeters:</b> Kevin & Sandi Wolpern Family <b>Lay Readers:</b> Jan Effinger <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Kirk Franek & Sandi Wolpern <b>Ushers:</b> Brent Schwichtenberg, Greg Schwichtenberg, Steve Schmidt, Mikkel Schmidt	<b>10:30</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> Megan Holzemer & Lila Bungarden <b>Greeters:</b> Virgil & Shirley Youngblom <b>Lay Readers:</b> Beth Beuch <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Steve Schroeder & Brent Koepf <b>Ushers:</b> Chris & Annette Moylan, Mike & Zach Olson, Jason & Trevor Gruhn, Steve Schroeder, Kiya Williamson

<b>January 19 Worship Assistants</b>	
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> <b>Altar Guild:</b> Diane Skelley & Robin Fink	
<b>Pizza Helpers:</b> No Pizza, Feed My Starving Children Event <b>Pizza Patrol:</b>	
<b>8:00</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> Ethan Bessel & Savanna Berg <b>Greeters:</b> Greg & Linda Schwichtenberg <b>Lay Readers:</b> Michelle Paulson <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Rob & Sandy Schultz <b>Ushers:</b> Chris Schultz, Rob Schultz, Mark Schultz, Wayne Koepf, Aaron Leonard, Matt & Dominick Fogarty	<b>10:30</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> <b>Greeters:</b> Mike & Joan Olson Family <b>Lay Readers:</b> Elissa Moonen <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Phoebe Einertson & Marcy Boblitt <b>Ushers:</b> Arvin & Midge Bessel, Lee Sauter, Bob Fairbanks, Greg Rosario, Daron Anderson

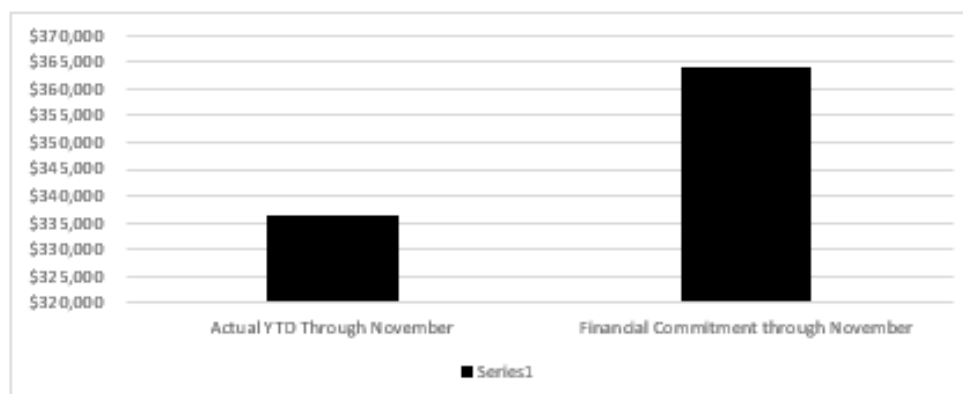
<b>January 26 Worship Assistants</b>	
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> <b>Altar Guild:</b> Diane Skelley & Robin Fink	
<b>Pizza Helpers:</b> Shara Hiles & Janice Lindahl <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> Wayne Nagel & Trevor Carstens	
<b>8:00</b> <b>Acolytes:</b> Leo Siekmann <b>Greeters:</b> Ron & Cheryl Nagel <b>Lay Readers:</b> Havyn Moonen <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Chris & Annette Moylan <b>Ushers:</b> Chris Schultz, Rob Schultz, Mark Schultz, Wayne Koepf, Aaron Leonard, Matt & Dominick Fogarty	

## Financial Corner

	<u>November 30, 2019</u>	<u>November 30, 2018</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
Income	\$ 336,397	\$ 324,889	4%
Expenses:			
Personnel	(281,016)	(270,331)	
Office	(15,568)	(18,328)	
Property & Maintenance	(33,885)	(37,353)	
Ministry Teams	(19,958)	(26,521)	
Other	(4,351)	(3,561)	
Benevolence:			
Minneapolis Area Synod	(11,000)	(11,000)	
Camp Onomia	(2,750)	(2,750)	
Belle Plaine Fire Dept	-	(225)	
Lutheran Social Services	(1,500)	(1,500)	
Missionary	-	(300)	
Net Receipts / (Expenditures)	<u>\$ (33,631)</u>	<u>\$ (46,980)</u>	
Cash Balance at January 1 (excl. all loans)	\$ (64,346)	\$ (35,163)	
Net Income / (Expenditures)	(33,631)	(46,980)	
Misc. cash not affecting income	237		
Loan from Building Fund (2018 - 2019)	54,500	31,000	
Loan from St. John Foundation (2014 -2016)	53,665	53,665	
Cash Balance at November 30	<u>\$ 10,425</u>	<u>\$ 2,522</u>	

Building Fund			
Receipts	\$ 125,311	\$ 136,972	-9%
Capital Appeal Expenses	-	(2,205)	
Miscellaneous Expenses	(141)	(18)	
Loaned to General Fund	(19,500)	(31,000)	
Principal	(100,945)	(96,372)	
Interest	(15,215)	(19,788)	
Net Receipts / (Disbursements)	<u>\$ (10,490)</u>	<u>\$ (12,411)</u>	
Loan Balance at January 1	\$ 435,544	\$ 551,424	
Principal Payments	(100,945)	(96,372)	
Loan Balance at November 30	<u>\$ 334,599</u>	<u>\$ 455,052</u>	

Actual Income Compared to 2019 Financial Commitment:			
Actual YTD Through November	\$	336,397	
Financial Commitment through November	\$	364,041	



St. John Lutheran Church  
148 S. Chestnut St.  
Belle Plaine 56011

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 16  
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

Change Service Requested

**Monthly Events**

First Tuesday-  
10:00am Cardinal Ridge Service  
11:00am Lutheran Home Service  
1:00pm Kingsway Service

Second Tuesday- Women's Bible Study 9:30 am  
Kitchen Area

**Weekly Events**

**Monday's**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study at Kingsway  
1:00pm Quilting

**Wednesday's**

4:30pm Youth Choir  
6:30pm Connect/Confirmation Classes  
7:30pm Adult Choir

**Saturday's**

6:00 pm Worship Service in Gathering Area

**Sunday's**

8:00 & 10:30am Worship Services  
9:15am Sunday School