Volume 32 Issue 1

January

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. JOHN NEWS

FROM THE PASTOR

What a great time it is to be a Christian! As disciples of Christ, we are daily reminded of things that this world needs to hear—that we are loved as we are, forgiven, called to be followers of Jesus, and sent out into this world to bring the healing Jesus began and continues to do! Only now, we get to participate in it.

We discover that in the midst of the realities of life that we are called to live each day as a new gift from God, grateful for waking in the morning and for being surrounded by God's love and the people who God has placed in our lives. This new day has the possibility to be filled with blessings, and we should live it with joy and love for others.

As we move into a new year on the secular calendar, many people take the time to assess their lives and to commit themselves to a fresh start. How many of you will be making New Year's resolutions?

In some ways, this is also true for Christians. The new calendar year can be an opportunity to examine faith journeys, and to ask questions about our lives and relationships – "Where am I in my relationship with God?" and "How am I living out my faith through my congregation and in my daily life?" are possible examples.

In this new year, as we examine our goals and priorities, we can also take the time to become newly involved, or re-involved in an activity at church, of which there are many to choose from (just keep reading this newsletter to find some)! Or, you may feel called to help start a new Bible Study, prayer group, or form of outreach to serve and grow closer in your relationship with God. If you're already very involved, maybe you

*Article continued , pg. 2

Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will take place immediately after worship on Sunday, January 22nd. All confirmed members of St. John are asked to attend. We will discuss important ministries for 2017.

Plus, a world famous pot-luck lunch will follow the meeting! Drinks will be provided, but please bring a dish to share. Don't miss this important meeting of the congregation and fellowship time to follow.

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- *Annual Reports Due*
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- *Poets Corner*

From Our Pastor from page 1

are called to take more time for prayer and reflection.

On Epiphany, January 6th, we will also enter a new season in the church year. During the Epiphany Season, our focus is on the light of Christ. During this time, we celebrate that Christ has come into our lives and brings light into the midst of the darkness caused by sin and fear. And we are challenged to let Christ's light shine through our word and actions, in how we live and how we give.

May the light of Christ bring joy and peace into each new day that is a gift from God.

Walking with you in Christ,
Pastor Stacy

Shine for Jesus

Health News

When parting ways a family always said to each other, "I wish you enough." When asked what that meant, they said, "When we said 'I wish you enough', we want the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them"

With this New Year, we just want to take the time to wish you enough:

- We wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright.
- We wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more.
- We wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive.
- We wish you enough pain to the smallest joys in life appear much bigger.
- We wish you enough hellos to get through the final goodbye. (Taken in part from Healthful Hints Vol.I)

"For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace." Isaiah 55:12a.

Your Prayers needed

Prayer is one of the most beautiful and meaningful gifts we can offer one another. Occasionally there are folks in this congregation, or friends or relative of members, in need of prayer for various reasons. Your prayers are needed for:

Patty Stelzer—daughter of Paul and Phyllis Stengel undergoing cancer treatments.
Evelyn Daniel-in need of our prayers dealing with multiple cancers.
Family and friends of Jeanette Walz — grieving her death.
Sharen Smith—diagnosed with cancer
Barbara Vance—diagnosed with cancer
Paul Stark—in need of our prayers as he deals with cancer

Outreach for the Homebound

ST. JOHN'S HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Joyce Baaske: Parkvue Place, Sandusky
Ruth Bruns: Lutheran Memorial Home, Sandusky
June Gorga: At Home (Mother of Nancy Osbun)
Jean Hlavin: Parkvue Place, Sandusky
Rachel Kaliszewski: Gaymont Nursing Home, Norwalk (Renee Barkhimer's mother)
Wayne and Ruth Knupke: At home, Huron
Ann Neate: At Providence Care, Sandusky
Jean Nottke: At home, Huron
Lois Oltman: At Parkvue Place
Margaret Ommert: At home, Huron
Joan Zorn: At Portland House

Addresses and contact information may be found in the congregational directory unless they reside in a nursing home.
Thanks for caring!

Visit Our Shut-Ins

Thank you for all of the beautiful cards and kind gifts this Christmas! We are so thankful to be part of the St. John's family, and love worshiping and serving with you. **Pastor Stacy, Ryan, and Mia**

Thank you for the caroling visit! We are very thankful for the carolers and plate of cookies from the members of St. John's. It was greatly appreciated. Sincerely, **Wayne and Ruth Knupke**

Thank You members of St. John's for the Christmas gift. It is a pleasure to serve St. John's congregation. Thank you for the gift and I look forward to continued service to our Lord and the members of St. John's.
Sandy Thompson,
St.John's Admin. Asst.

Pastor Stacy on Vacation

Pastor Stacy vacation: Pastor Stacy will be on vacation January 2-9. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Phil Gardner.
Pastor Phil Gardner, Trinity Lutheran Church, Sandusky
Office (419) 626-0204
Home (419) 625-6771

Family and Young Adult Dinner

As Pastor Stacy and Ryan continue getting to know the family at St. John's, they would love to have all young families and young adults join together for dinner at Chet and Matt's on January 29th at 4 PM in the back room. Please RSVP by calling or texting Pastor Stacy at 419-680-0358.

Annual Reports

Reports can be placed in the "Annual Report " envelope at the back of the church OR e-mailed to sandy8110@gmail.com or send via US Mail to 2009 Jeffries Rd. Huron OH 44839 Thanks so much for your assistance.

Pastor Stacy
Will Be Away
Jan. 2-9

Dinner Church

Join FLAMe congregations for dinner church on January 15th at 5:30 pm at Chet and Matt's in the back room. Everyone is welcome for fellowship, prayer, Holy Communion, and dinner. A free will offering will be taken.

January Birthday

Jan. 1 —Heather Welch
2 —Vicki Johnson,
Joyce Baaske
Helen Williams
3 —Doreen Ross,
5 —Jean Nottke,
Jacob Bechtel
9 —Scott Riley
Pastor Stacy
11—Nathan Harlan, Jacob Deehr
17—Sandy Thompson
20—Doris Rahrig
Ed Kalis, Brant Davie
21—Amelia Bliss
22—Preston Luman
23—Brittany Semon
24—William Lucht
25—Don Johnson
26—Mia Scovanner
29—Nancy Osbun

Altar Flowers

January Flower Donors

1-
8-
15-
22-
29-

Bible Readings for January from the Book of Matthew

Sun. Jan. 1	Matt. Chapter 8:1-34	Jesus Healing
Mon. Jan. 2	Matt. Chapter 9:17	Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man
Tue. Jan. 3	Matt. Chapter 9:18-38	More Healings
Wed. Jan. 4	Matt. Chapter 10:1-15	The Twelve Apostles
Thur. Jan. 5	Matt. Chapter 10:16-31	Coming Persecutions
Fri. Jan. 6	Matt. Chapter 10:32-42	Confessing and Rejecting Christ
Sat. Jan. 7	Matt. Chapter 11:1-19	The Messengers from John The Baptist
Sun. Jan. 8	Matt. Chapter 11:20-28	The Unbelieving Towns
Mon. Jan. 9	Matt. Chapter 12:1-32	Questions about the Sabbath
Tue. Jan. 10	Matt. Chapter 12:33-50	A Tree and its Fruit
Wed. Jan. 11	Matt. Chapter 13:1-23	The Parable of the Sower
Thur. Jan. 12	Matt. Chapter 13:24-56	More Parables
Fri. Jan. 13	Matt. Chapter 14:1-36	The Death of John The Baptist
Sat. Jan. 14	Matt. Chapter 15:1-39	The Teaching of the Ancestors
Sun. Jan. 15	Matt. Chapter 16:1-26	The Demand for a Miracle
Mon. Jan. 16	Matt. Chapter 17:1-27	The Transfiguration
Tue. Jan. 17	Matt. Chapter 18:1-35	Who Is The Greatest
Wed. Jan. 18	Matt. Chapter 19:1-30	Jesus Teaches About Divorce
Thur. Jan. 19	Matt. Chapter 20:1-34	The Workers In The Vineyard
Fri. Jan. 20	Matt. Chapter 21:1-49	The Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem
Sat. Jan. 21	Matt. Chapter 22:1-22	The Parable of the Wedding Feast
Sun. Jan. 22	Matt. Chapter 22:23-46	Questions about Rising From the Dead
Mon. Jan. 23	Matt. Chapter 23:1-39	Teachings by Jesus
Tue. Jan. 24	Matt. Chapter 24:1-51	Troubles and Persecutions
Wed. Jan. 25	Matt. Chapter 25:1-46	More Parables
Thur. Jan. 26	Matt. Chapter 26:1-46	The Plot Against Jesus
Fri. Jan. 27	Matt. Chapter 26:47-75	The Arrest of Jesus
Sat. Jan. 28	Matt: Chapter 27:1-26	Jesus Is Taken to Pilate
Sun. Jan. 29	Matt. Chapter 27:27-44	The Soldiers Make Fun of Jesus
Mon. Jan. 30	Matt. Chapter 27:45-66	The Death of Jesus
Tue. Jan. 31	Matt. Chapter 28:1-20	The Resurrection

Bible Study:

As we prepare for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will open our Bibles and our Small Catechisms to listen for what God continues saying to us in this time and place. Please join us at Barry Bagels, 4315 Milan Rd, Sandusky, OH 44870, in their private back room on Thursdays beginning January 26th at 11 AM.

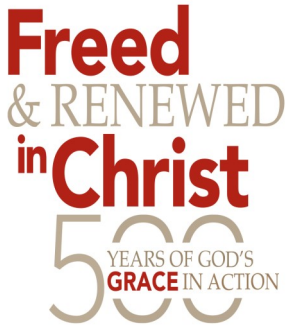
Sisters in faith called home to the Church Triumphant

We join the Justi and Walz families in grieving the loss of Rita Justi and Jeanette Walz, faithful members of St. John's.

Rita Justi passed away on November 26, 2016 and the funeral took place on Nov. 29th with interment at St. John's Cemetery.

Jeanette Walz passed away on Friday, Dec. 30, 2016 funeral held on Monday, Jan. 2, 2017 with interment at St. John's Cemetery.

Please keep these families in your prayers during these difficult days.



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
December 6, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER: Pastor Stacy opened the meeting with a reading about "Praise" and asked us to think about that for which "we give praise". She then said a special prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Stacy, Jacob Deehr, Paula Hoffman, Jeff Justi, Bob Krawetzki, Jerrie Krawetzki, Barry Laird, Jim Moore**,** Dale Osbun**,** Lori Stacy, Ann Voight &Ray Witt. Guest: Kerry Laird

MINUTES –November 1, 2016 council meeting minutes were approved by council on motion by Bob Krawetzki and seconded by Ray Witt.

TREASURER REPORT – October, 2016 financials accepted by Council on motion by Barry Laird and seconded by Jeff Justi.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report – November, **2016** financials were accepted by Council on motion by Barry Laird and seconded by Jeff Justi.

YTD Revenue ---$	119,967
YTD Expenses-- $	92.783
Net Revenue ---- $	27,184

2017 BUDGET: Dale Osbun review the proposed 2017 budget in detail and answered questions. On motion by Barry Laird and seconded by Paula Hoffman, Council recommends this 2017 budget to be reviewed at the Annual 2016 Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 22, 2017. Dale was thanked for all his work for 5 years as treasurer. He has organized the financial area of St. John's in a professional way and is mentoring Colleen Shupe as next treasurer. Well done good and faithful servant!

REPORTS:
Pastor Stacy: Pastor submitted a written report to members. This is very helpful so that we can review it and be ready with our questions. Pastor Stacy did her first funeral at St. John's in November. The month was filled with home and nursing home visits, meetings of all kinds, "getting-to-know-you" member visits, worship planning, Sunday School and many other things. The schedule is packed!

Deacons: Wine will be picked up this week.

Elders: Barry Laird reported on the Good News Amen Meeting. Their recommendation is for Lenten soup suppers to continue. Discussion will continue about snacks for kids at Berlin Heights.

Trustees: Salt will be placed at each door for wintertime. Pastor and Ryan will use the snow blower for their driveway. Jimmy Roe clears snow in main parking lot and, if deep, at the parsonage. Jacob Deehr is contact person. Trustees gave Pastor Stacy clarification that church services are to be cancelled with a Level 2 or Level 3 snow/ice emergency. Jacob Deehr is trying to get painter for narthex and main entrance.

FLAMe: The organization will be meeting here at St. John's on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Stacy is involved with the group now. FLAMe is sponsoring the opening concert for Firelands Symphony Orchestra in 2017.... Some movements of The Reformation Symphony will be performed.

Worship Team: Christmas Eve Services are scheduled for 4:00 p.m. and 8 p.m. and an abbreviated Christmas Day Service will begin at 8:30 a.m. Worship Committee completed their budget.

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Faith Life: Paula Hoffman submitted a written report for Faith Life. St. John's Family Christmas party was Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4:00 p.m. and a good time was had by all. Decorated trees and Christmas gifts will go to nursing home residents this year, Members are encouraged to select tags from the tree. A separate Youth Team is being considered outside of the Faith Life Team.

OLD BUSINESS:
Nominating Committee: Committee still needs one trustee and a deacon for the 2017 Election slate.

Shared Ministry Team -- This shared ministry is still a possibility for St. John's as very part-time members with Zion Sandusky and St. Paul Sandusky and perhaps other FLAMe churches. Jenna Stacy and Pastor Stacy have been involved in developing the job description. St. John's President and Vice-President are invited to attend the next meeting with Pastor Stacy.

NEW BUSINESS:
Job Descriptions: Members are requested to review St. John's Constitution and job descriptions. If you need a copy of your current job description, please e mail Ann Voight.

William P. Scheid Jr. Music Fund: The fund is only for requests that are music–related. Ann Voight mentioned the revised sections: A Scheid Family member will be notified if a major expenditure is being considered; the Finance Team will review each request and make recommendations to Council; and Worship Team's music budget will be pre-approved for a fiscal year. On motion by Dale Osbun and seconded by Ray Witt, Council approved the revised guidelines.

Organist Morgan Noon: Jim Moore sent information to review about Morgan's written request to attend the National Conference For Sacred Music in Charlotte, NC on Janaury 4-6, 2017. Pastor Stacy made this conference known to Morgan, and Morgan reviewed the content and was interested. Ann Voight explained this qualifies as continuing **music** education for our organist. There are many sessions offering ideas for working with adults and children to help Morgan in her role with St. John's Music Ministry. The Finance Team on November 21 carefully reviewed the conference offerings and recommended paying the total costs of $1305 (and up to $1500 if necessary) from the Bill Scheid Music Fund (current assets of $8556). Subsequently, Bill Scheid's three daughters donated $200 each to support this conference for Morgan. On motion by Ann Voight and seconded by Paula Hoffman, Council unanimously supported this Sacred Music Conference for Morgan Noon. This is an exciting opportunity for professional development as Morgan begins her 5th year with St. John's. Please Google "National Conference for Sacred Music, Augsburg Music" for additional information.

Script: Kerry Laird reported that since July 2016 Script has earned 372.85.

Adjournment: On motion by Ray Witt and seconded by Jeri Krawetzki, our meeting adjourned. We prayed the Lord's Prayer before departing.

Announcements:
December 24 at 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. are Christmas Eve Services
December 25 at 8:30 a.m. is Christmas Day Service
January 3, 2017 is next Council meeting.
January 22, 2017 --Annual Congregational Meeting after church, with a potluck meal to follow

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann S. Voight, Secretary

A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known

January 2017

A Light to the Nations

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Flowers:	2	3 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	4 Choir Practice – 7:00 pm	5	6	7
8 Flowers: Pastor Stacy on vacation	9 Quilting Session 9:00 am	10	11 Choir Practice – 7:00 pm	12 Crossroads 3:30-6:00	13	14
15 Flowers: Dinner Church 5:30 at Chet & Matt	16	17	18 Choir Practice 7:00 pm Worship Team-5:45	19 Faith Life 6:30 pm	20	21
22 Flowers: Annual Meeting following worship and potluck	23 Quilting Session 9:00 am	24	25 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	26	27	28
29 Flowers:	30	31				

St. John's Lutheran Church
106 Scheid Rd
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Phone: 419-625-2192
E-mail:
stjohncal@gmail.com

Website:
www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

St. John's Lutheran Church
106 Scheid Rd.
Sandusky, OH 44870

A Family of Disciples,
Faithfully Making Christ Known!

Church: 419-625-2192
stacylauer@gmail.com (Pastor)
Sandy8110@gmail.com (Admin.)
www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED

First Quarter Team

Allison & Kevin Young
Judy & John Miller
Sandy & Chuck Thompson

January 1st
Communion Glasses
January 15th
Annual Congregation Meeting
Communion Glasses

Teams will be in charge of communion glasses, fellowship, and altar cloths.
Contact Allison Young if you have any questions.

Quarterly Ministry Team

Poet's Corner

by Jerry Bauer

New Beginnings

"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope." Psalm 130:5

New year, new beginnings.
But once a year?
I hope in God's word
creating word,
living word,
life giving word.
Every day, every moment,
from God's creative breath;
potential for surprises, opportunities,
new insights, new ventures.
Holy Spirit, open my eyes, heart, mind
to what God sets before me.
Find surprise, the new,
in small things,
on surface not much.
Rejoice in the newness of every day.
In Christ, 365 days
of new beginnings.

Ministry Opportunities!

USHERS
Jan.—Dave Zorn

LAY READERS
Jan. 1—Jim Semon, Sr.
Linda Miller-Moore
Chuck Kingsley
8—Kevin Young
15—Paula Hoffman
22—Jan Fulton
29—

COMMUNION ASSIST.
Jan. 1—Sandy Thompson
Jan.15—Paula Hoffman

New Flower Chart Posted!

There are many open dates just waiting for you to sign up.