



THE BROADCASTER

DECEMBER 2025

LCOSJ EVENTS at a glance



Communion Sundays

1st, 4th Sundays in
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Small Group Bible Studies

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Thursdays

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"by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands.

This he set aside, nailing it to the cross."

Colossians 2:14

In a nation so deeply divided on so many topics, we find a way to come together at the holidays. Whether that be watching a football game together - 40+ million of us will do that on Thanksgiving or eating or the eating of turkey - estimated at nearly 90% of us. But perhaps the one that tops them all is the giving of gifts and it all starts with Black Friday.

From the Friday after Thanksgiving to the Cyber Monday it is estimated that close to 60% of us will shop the deals, spending nearly \$700 each. All that holiday spending will result in over \$100 billion for retailers! That's what makes it Black Friday, because it is the day that retailers finally make a profit for the year as their books enter the black.

Isn't it ironic though that for the retailers to enter into the black and finally make a profit, many of us will see our budget drop into the red!

So it was on another Friday, a Good Friday. As Paul recounts in Colossians, our debt was canceled and set aside. Our account was finally balanced and in the black. And all of it possible by *"nailing it to the cross."* All at the cost of Jesus blood, the debt of our sin written in red across His battered and broken body.

As our nation is busying buying gifts for the holiday season, we remember a child laid in a manger. And instead of just being filled with peace as we peer into the eyes of a newborn child, we remember that the reason He was born in the first place was to give us a Black Friday of sorts as all our debts are canceled and sins forgiven.

Many blessings this special time of year.

Pastor Steve

PRAYER FOCUS

DECEMBER // TREE OF LIFE

This year we are serving over 75 children and their families through our Tree of Life Program, including children served by Chaddock. Pray for the ingathering and distribution of gifts that all goes according to plan. Pray that the gifts we provide will bring joy to these families. Pray that we can share the gift of Jesus and that each of them would find their hope in the manger and cross.

SERVING THE LORD

DECEMBER 2025

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 8:00 AM KIRK GAULDIN
- 10:30 AM JOSH CRABTREE

USHERS— 8:00 AM

- 7 // JOEL & ERIN DICKHUT
- 14 // JODY & JODIE MAUCK
- 21 // THOM HURLEY & RUTH FULLER
- 28 // 9:30 AM—SHANE ROTHFUSS AND DESTANY SCHAFER

USHERS— 10:30 AM

- 7 // SOLTWEDEL FAMILY
- 14 // TURNER FAMILY
- 21 // BAUMGARTNER FAMILY

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

Volunteers are needed to help with decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday, November 30th, following late service.

ALTAR SERVICE

Volunteers are needed to help with Altar duties (Change Paraments, care of linens and flowers). You can sign up on the bulletin board by the office or contact Marilyn in the office. Email at secretary@lcosj.org.

Holy Communion will be served on Sundays, December 14, 25 and 28.



SERVING THE LORD

The Lutheran Church of St. John

Phone number: 222-8579 and 222-1182

Emails: Pastor Steve Hayden — pastor@lcosj.org

Marilyn Humphrey — secretary@lcosj.org

Noah Boudreau — worship@lcosj.org

Stevie Bainter, Food Pantry Admin — openhands@lcosj.org

Website: www.lcosj.org **Facebook** **YouTube**

Church office hours: Mon.-Fri.: 8:00am-4:00pm, call ahead

WORSHIP HAPPENINGS

Our Dear Christ Enter In



Each year at Christmas, millions of Americans travel home to visit family and friends. In the midst of hustle and bustle, the real blessing of Christmas sometimes gets buried. This year during Advent, we will remember what it looks like when Christ enters into our homes and our lives. Join us each week as we prepare for Christ to enter into our world.

December 7 - Home Hurts

December 14 - Baby Names

December 21 - Company Comes

Christmas Worship

You are invited to join us for the celebration of Christmas.

Christmas Eve

- 5pm - Contemporary Candlelight
- 8pm - Traditional Candlelight

Christmas Day

9:30am - Christmas Worship with Communion

December 28

9:30 am - One unified worship service as we continue to celebrate the joy of Christmas

December 31

6pm - New Year's Eve Worship hosted by Our Redeemer.

Congregational Christmas Party

Christmas is a time to spend with family and those you love. Let's celebrate that with our church family. Join us December 14 following the late service for a party. While you listen to Christmas music, play bingo, or work on a craft you can enjoy a light lunch with your church family. We hope you can join us!



There will be one unified worship on December 28 at 9:30am



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School children meet at 9:30am in the Discovery Den. Kids from 2 year old through 6th grade are invited to join us for a great year of learning. This month the kids will continue to prepare for their Christmas Program. All our kids are invited to come join in the singing and fun as we get ready to share the Good News of Christmas with our family on December 17. Come join the fun.

A Christmas Showcase

Come out and support our kids at the annual Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 17. We will begin at 7 pm with Christmas desserts and a hot cocoa bar. Sign up at church to bring your favorite dessert. Showtime will be at 7:30 pm. Invite your family and friends to join us as we celebrate the kids of our Church and the joy of Christmas.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Christmas Party

Both Junior and Senior High youth are invited to join us for our annual Christmas Party.

Sunday, December 14

7-8:30 pm

We will enjoy fun holiday games, delicious snacks and a gift exchange. Please bring a white elephant gift. Friends are welcome and invited to join us for our celebration.

Scrip Sales

The youth continue to scrip to help support their activities. You can purchase scrip before and after the 10:30am service on Sunday mornings or in the church office. Watch for them by the Sunday School stairs.

Tree of Life

Reminder that gifts for the Tree of Life are due by Sunday, December 7. Please return gifts unwrapped, with the tag attached. Thank you for your generous donations that are allowing us to serve over 75 children in the community. This year we are partnering again with Chaddock to help serve the children in their ministry.

CRADLE ROLL—There are 7 children enrolled.

Children receive materials until age 3, that parents can share with them about God's love.

One Addition: Maxwell Nierman

Born: June 1, 2025

Baptized: November 30, 2025

No Birthdays in December

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The Men's Club

The Quincy Area Men's Club will not meet in December. They will meet again on January 19, 2026. All men of the congregation are invited to join them anytime for fellowship and devotion.

Lutheran Women in Mission

Thank you to everyone who donated to the LWML Mites Missions. All the women of the Congregation are welcome to visit with either of these two service groups.

Mary & Martha members will meet to celebrate Christmas on Tuesday, December 2nd at 5:30 pm at Sprouts Inn.

SOUP SALES

Once again Mary Martha members will be selling soup. We will offer Tomato Basil Bisque, Taco, and Chicken Noodle soups. The soups will be available for purchase on December 7th between services and after late service. The cost will be \$10 per quart. You will be able to store your soup in the kitchen freezer if you buy it before service. The money raised will be donated to The Well House, the organ fund, and Mary Martha projects.

Ladies Aid Society members will celebrate Christmas with lunch on Wednesday, December 3rd at 11:30 am in the Oasis.

You are invited to celebrate with HUNTER BAKER at his Graduation Party, Sunday, December 21 at 1 PM to 4 PM at Krazy Town Tramp Park, 301 Spring St. Stop by anytime. Golf Simulators, Football on TV

Horizon's— Monday meals at Horizon's (224 S.

8th Street) on the 2nd & 4th Mondays, December 8 & 22. Volunteers are needed and you can sign up by the office. See Bill or Lynda Keller or Pastor Steve if any questions.

TREASURER REPORT

Income less expenses for month-to-date

November 30, 2025:

Income: \$ 38,152.03

Total All Expenses: \$ 38,843.50

Expenses over Income \$ (691.47)

OPEN HANDS

OPEN HANDS FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is open on Thursdays from 10am—2pm. In November we served 219 households that included 754 individuals with 290 of those were children.



Open Hands Food Pantry Donations

The greatest need is Breakfast items, soups, canned fruit, and shelf-stable milk or powdered milk. Cake mix & icing are always welcome. Any donation is very much appreciated. Always need plastic bags.

The **Mobile Food Pantry** provided food for 30 families (109 individuals with 55 of them being kids) at Harrison Hills on Nov. 18th. The Mobile Pantry will be at Country Club Heights on Dec. 9, 10am-11am. If you would like to serve at a future Mobile Pantry, please contact Stevie in the church office or email openhands@lcosj.org.

Closet of Grace

If you are cleaning out your shelves remember us as a place to bring your donations of winter clothes and especially COATS. Not only do people receive cloths, but our amazing volunteers wrap them in God's love.

Mission Guatemala

We are starting to form a team of servants who will travel to Guatemala next summer to once again serve at Hope for Home Ministries. This life-changing opportunity is open members and friends 14 years and older. If you have ever considered this trip, you are encouraged to come and learn more at one of our informational meetings. December 7 at 11:30 am or December 11 at 6 pm. If you have questions about the trip, contact Pastor Steve

BIBLE STUDIES

LIFE LESSONS FROM HEBREWS

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

In this book by Max Lucado, the group will explore some of the lessons we can draw from the book of Hebrews. The Monday night group gathers in the home of Bill and Lynda Keller at 7pm. They will only meet on December 8 and 15.

THE MARVEL AND MIRACLE OF ADVENT

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to join us for this video series and discussion looking at the Advent season. The Women's Bible study group meets on Tuesday at 9:30am in the Oasis. All ladies of the church and friends are invited to join. The ladies will NOT meet December 23 or 30

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

When God poured His Holy Spirit on the Church, they boldly shared the Word and the Church experienced incredible growth. In this study of Acts we will see how God continues to bless the work of the Church and the spread of the Gospel. We will not meet December 24 or 31.

MEN OF FAITH

SATURDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We are studying the faith of Ezra and Nehemiah as they helped with the rebuilding of Israel. All men are invited to join us as for breakfast and study every Saturday in the Oasis at 8am. We will not meet December 28.

OUR DEAR CHRIST ENTER IN

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

In this Advent season we will examine ways that Jesus continues to enter into our lives today. This study is a deeper dive into the theme of worship. Come on in on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Grab some coffee and donuts as we dive into God's Word together.

ONLINE OFFERINGS

Giving online is easy and secure!

Click on the image on www.lcosj.org to make your donation online! You can make a one-time offering, or set up to make weekly, bi-monthly or monthly offerings, whichever fits your budget.

