

Look at the Week Ahead

Sun Dec 23	9:00 AM	Worship Service
	10:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	6:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Boy Scouts
Mon Dec 24	3:00 PM	Worship Service
	5:00 PM	Worship Service
	10:00 PM	Worship Service
Fri Dec 28	8:00 PM	AA/Al-Anon Meeting
Sat Dec 29	5:00 PM	Worship with Communion

Christmas Eve Services

3 PM Sunday School

5 PM Rock'n the Church

10 PM Candlelight Service with the Bells of St John
& the Voices of St John

Do you enjoy visiting with others and making a difference? Consider becoming a Hospice Volunteer! Opportunities are available in this area! If interested contact St. Croix Hospice (507) 508-3091 or at volunteer@stcroixhospice.com

Most Holy Redeemer School presents the first annual Hibernation Celebration and Raffle Fundraiser. Purchase tickets to win cash prizes of \$1500, \$750 and \$500. Only 400 tickets sold. Social gathering will be held on February 2, 2019. Many local businesses will be offering food and drink specials, music and other entertainment. Live drawing for cash prizes will take place at the Rustic Farmer on Main Street at 10:00pm." Tickets are \$50, Missy will have tickets to purchase in the church office.

Thank you for the donations made to the Bell Tower and the Soldier Box Funds.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Mission Trip Pancake Breakfast last Sunday,



After school Youth Group for grades 3-6, 3:05-4:05 PM at church on the *first* Wednesdays of the month. *Next group meeting is January 2nd.*

Moonlight Snowshoeing Event at Richter's Woods on Saturday, January 5th 4:30-7:15 PM. Sign up with Community Ed to reserve your snowshoes. Sign up on the youth bulletin board to car pool!

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Reader

Diane LaVine

Head Usher

Carol Kiekow

Ushers/Greeters

Carol Kiekow

Phillip Solberg

Doug & Karen Thompson

Communion Assistants

Lynden & Deb Jelinek

Youth Volunteer

Acolyte

Gabrielle Davidson

Altar Guild

Cindy Zahratka

Saturday's Service

Thank you to our volunteer ushers and others helping with this service.



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

105 SPRUCE AVENUE
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Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23, 2018

Jason Pollington, Pastor 507-667-9000
Carol Kiekow, Congregation President
Sara Kuchinka, Sunday School Superintendent
Melissa Gregor, Youth Ministry Director/Secretary
Kathy Heyda, Music Director/Organist
Roman Jindra, Custodian
Diane DeWitte, Organist

Welcome & Announcements
 Confession and Forgiveness.....Page 94
 Gathering Song *“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”*.....# 251
 KyriePage 147
 Hymn of PraisePage 148
 Prayer of the Day (in unison).....Insert
 Special Music (Sunday) *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”*.....Bells of St. John
 Lighting of the Advent Candle
 First Reading: *Micah 5:2-5a*
 Psalm *Luke 1:46b-5*
 Special Music (Sunday) *“Gesu Bambino”*.....Lisa Schroeder, Anne Schroeder
 Second Reading: *Hebrews 10:5-10*
 Gospel AcclamationPage 151
 Gospel: *Luke 1:39-45 {46-55}*
 Children’s Sermon
 Sermon
 Hymn of the Day *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*..... #257
 Apostles CreedPage 105
 Peace
 Offering
 Offertory *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*.....# 885
 Great ThanksgivingPage 152
 Lord’s PrayerPage 154
 Communion
 Blessing
 Sending Hymn *“Joy to the World”*#267
 Dismissal

Welcome to Worship at St. John!

May you find peace and joy as we worship together on this day. We invite you to please sign the guest book located near the elevator. For those with children, we are grateful you are here. Activity bags and children’s bulletins are available and are located at the top of the stairs. *All baptized Christians* who believe in Christ’s real presence in Holy Communion may receive it. During the distribution of Holy Communion, children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing and a cookie. Wrapped gluten-free wafers and portioned cups of grape juice are available for Communion. Wine is distributed in the larger chalice and grape juice is distributed in the smaller chalice. Large print bulletins and inserts are available in the back of the church. Ask the head usher for these materials.

Worship Offering Last Weekend: General Fund \$7,628.32 Restoration Fund \$65
 ~ \$3,471.00 is needed weekly to meet the 2018 General Fund budget

Attendance Last Weekend: Saturday 27 ~ Sunday 187



Remember in your Prayers... Phyllis Pelowski (Mother of Lynn Heinzig), Roger Napper, Bentley Ingram, Betty Braun, Rycky Kes, Glenn Kerkow, Cathy Herrmann, Eileen Segna, Nancy Vollmar, Tom Trenda, Greg Vlasak, Rev. Bob Boda, Phyllis Swidorski, Amy Korthuis (Judy Ferguson’s sister-in-law), and Nancy Creger.

Please remember in your Prayers the following who are serving our country:

Travis Ferguson, Shane Morris, Adam Smith, Adam Vlasak and Sam Westerhouse.



It is time to do another St John Pictorial Directory. The council is looking for a committee to study options and organize it for sometime in 2019. If interested, please contact Pastor, Missy or one of the council members.

The Council has 4 openings for 2019: Three 3 year terms and one 2 year term to finish out a term. Carol Kiekow’s term is up but she has agreed to run again. It is important that we have people ready to serve and help us as we undertake the bell tower repair and continue to make St John a welcoming place of worship. If interested in serving or have any questions, please contact Pastor, Carol Kiekow or Kathy Peterson.

Pastor Tim Bowan will be providing pulpit supply for services on December 29th & 30th.

Giving Envelopes for next year on the card table near the main sanctuary entrance. We are changing our envelopes for this next year. Please see instruction attached to each bundle of 25 and the sign on the table. Please talk to Pastor Jason, Kathy Peterson or Missy Gregor if you have questions.

Please bring in your Christmas card for our congregation Christmas tree. This is the tree on the wall in the upstairs Sunday school area. Wish everyone in our congregation a Merry Christmas!

Our 2018 Mitten tree collected 23 hats, 52 pairs of gloves, 7 scarves, and 2 hat & mittens sets. Thank you for your generous donations.

Thank you for purchasing Poinsettias for our Christmas Eve services. Poinsettias may be taken home and enjoyed.

Worship Assistants for the three next months have been scheduled. Schedules will be in the monthly newsletter and posted outside of the main sanctuary entrance. Thank you for volunteering for these positions!

Thank you to the American Legion Post 79, the VFW Post 5340, Thrivent, the 1st grade students of TCU Montgomery, the Sunday School students of St. John, Kathy Derhaag for the beautiful handmade cards, and all others who donated money and items for the soldier boxes. We mailed out 27 packages and/or gift cards. A special thank you to Paul and Nancy Vollmer who spearhead this project and Cindy Zahratka who does so much of the work with me. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Wendy Vargo, Evangelism Committee

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the Operation Christmas Child project by donation gift filled shoe boxes to children living in poverty around the world. 128 shoeboxes were collected and delivered to the processing center in Lakeville. St John’s also donated \$116.00 for shipping from the aluminum can collection money. Our church has participated in this project for 19 years. Thank you for your continued support! ~ Mary Brahs