

Thank you for your generous donations. 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 shoeboxes 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

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 10:00 PM. Tickets are \$50, Missy will have tickets to purchase in the church office.

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!



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

3 PM David Winge
5 PM Lisa Hoefs
10 PM Megan Pratola

Head Usher

3 PM Carol Kiekow
5 PM Volunteer needed
10 PM Connie Cihak

Ushers/Greeters

3 PM Hilary Birdsell
Volunteers needed-3
5 PM Volunteers needed-4
10 PM Volunteers needed-4

Communion Assistants

3 PM Maverick Birdsell
Volunteer needed
Youth Volunteer
5 PM Volunteers needed-2
Youth Volunteer
10 PM Kathy Derhaag
Volunteer needed
Youth Volunteer

Acolyte

3 PM volunteer needed
5 PM volunteer needed
10 PM Volunteer needed

Altar Guild

Connie Cihak



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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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

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2018

Special Music (3:00 PM)

“The First Noel”Pre-K & Kindergarten

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”Grades 1-2

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”Grades 3-4

Gathering Hymn “O Come All Ye Faithful” #283

Invocation

THE WORD

1st reading Isaiah 9:2-7

Special Music

“The Friendly Beasts”Rock’n the Church (5:00 PM)

“Starry Night”Bells of St. John (10:00 PM)

2nd reading Titus 2:11-14

Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory”#275 (vs. 1 & 2)

Gospel Luke 2:1-7

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem”#279

Gospel Luke 2:8-16

Hymn “Away in a Manger”#277

Gospel Luke 2:17-20

Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”#270 (vs. 1 & 2)

Special Music “Mary Did You Know?”Voices of St. John (10:00 PM)

Children’s Sermon

Meditation

Offering

Nicene Creed.....Page 104

Offering

THE MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

(P) The Lord be with you. (C) **And also with you.**

(P) Lift up your hearts. (C) **We lift them to the Lord.**

(P) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (C) **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

(C) **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the

highest.

Lord’s Prayer.....Page 112

Holy Communion “O Holy Night”John Grimm (10:00 PM)

Blessing

Hymn “Silent Night, Holy Night!” #281

Candle lighting Service (10:00 PM)



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), 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.

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.

Our 2018 Mitten tree collected 23 hats, 52 pairs of gloves, 7 scarves, and 2 hat & mittens sets.

Thank you for purchasing Poinsettias for our Christmas Eve Services. Poinsettias may be taking home after the 10 PM service or anytime next week.

Thanks to our soloist – John Grimm (10:00 PM)

Thanks to our violinist – Riley Skluzacek (5:00 & 10:00 PM)

Thanks to the children, the Bells of St. John and the Voices of St. John

Thanks to our Holy Families –
Ashley & Matt Loftus & Haley (3:00 PM) Tristan & Trenton, shepherds
Madeline Novotny & Jesus Corral & Grayson (5:00 PM)
Becky Barrington & Luis Ingram & Bentley (10:00 PM)

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.