



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

## The Messenger

(Monthly publication)

January and February 2020



Dear friends in Christ,

We're halfway through the month of December. Everywhere you look you see bright, colorful Christmas decorations. We are surrounded by the wonderful sounds of carols and other holiday music. Our homes are filled Christmas trees, wreaths and the smells of freshly baked cookies. Please don't let all the excitement of this time of the year cause you to overlook the true meaning of Christmas; the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

I would like to wish each and everyone of you a Merry and blessed Christmas. May this holiday season be filled with joy, love and laughter. I hope that the awe and wonder that surrounds us during this time of year continues for you throughout the coming year as well.

Be sure to open your hearts to those less fortunate. We often take for granted the blessings that we have. Take a

moment out of your busy schedules to brighten the day of someone else. It may be just a kind word or a helping hand. A little kindness goes a long way to bringing sunshine to someone whose days are cloudy.

I also ask you to please keep in mind all of God's creatures. The animal shelters and humane society are filled with cats and dogs that won't have a warm lap to sit on or a kind word to comfort them. Donations are always appreciated. Also, I can't begin to describe the warmth in my heart that I feel when I watch the birds and squirrels at the feeders in my back yard during the lean months of winter.

And so, in the famous words uttered by Tiny Tim, "A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, every one!"

Merry Christmas and God's Peace to All,  
Gary Staab  
Congregation President

## 2020: A Year of Baptismal Celebration

At St. John's, we are choosing to dedicate this year to the gift of Baptism. We have a strong tradition of celebrating our baptisms each month during worship, and that will continue. This year we are adding an emphasis on Baptism in daily life. In Martin Luther's language we will practice daily dying and rising through remembering our baptism. We will give weekly thanks in worship through remembrance of baptism as a congregation. We will also lift up the baptismal connection to life events. Everything we do is connected to the promise that God makes to us at Baptism. "You are my child. In you I am well pleased."

Look for regular opportunities to explore the wonders of Baptism. How many baptismal images can you spot in our sanctuary? What baptismal language do we use in worship and song? How is baptism really related to our daily lives? These are just some of the things we will be lifting up throughout the year.

(continued on p. 2)



Lily Walleen was baptized 12/23

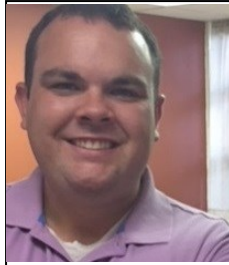
*Year of Baptism Celebration (from p. 1)*

One of the treasures in our congregation attic relates to connecting baptism and funerals. The Sacrament of Baptism is visible at the funeral in: the water in the font and the placement of the font near the casket or urn. Baptism is visible as the paschal candle is lit and shows the presence of Christ. Baptism is visible as a white pall (or cloth) is laid on the coffin or urn. "A white pall is placed over the coffin to recall the white robe given in Baptism, the robe of Christ's righteousness. The pall further has democratizing value, for it prevents both the display of a costly coffin and the embarrassment of a simple one." (*Manuel on the Liturgy* p. 357)

Most people that I meet when we plan funerals for loved ones know about naming Pall Bearers. That is those people who are tasked with physically helping to transport the casket of a loved one. What we have set aside is the Pall itself. The white cloth that marks our loved one as a baptized child of God. We are going to put it back to use this year. Since many people are choosing cremation and the urn is very different from a casket, we will be introducing a smaller, urn sized pall to keep the symbolism alive even as other funeral traditions change.

**What about flowers?** Nothing gets placed on top of the Pall once it is in place. Casket sprays are welcome at visitations and before the service and at the gravesite, but will be removed during the funeral service itself.

**What about the flag?** Veterans have served and protected us all and the power of a flag draped casket is visually striking. During a funeral at the church, the church symbols of baptism are lifted up. At the church, the flag is removed for the pall, and the flag replaced for graveside services.



January brings a lot of newness to our lives. We have the Christmas season along with New Years. We are no longer in 2019, but 2020! Can you believe it? Now it is a time to recover from a non-stop Christmas season and replace it with those new years resolutions. Many decide on new health plans and goals they have for the

upcoming year. Last year at this time I was in the middle of my first program year with Confirmation, Sunday school and the wide-ranging pastoral duties.

I can say that this past year has gone by fast and I am grateful for all the relationships I have made with the members of this church.

I feel truly grateful to worship alongside you, offer new perspective, and think of ways in which we can do ministry together. Most importantly, I am grateful with the love and grace you have shown me. I have gained confidence in my preaching, have an amazing faith formation team, and love being with the confirmation students as we learn about the Small Catechism. I am excited for the future ahead at St. Johns and how we can move forward together in ministry.

In the midst of every passing year, we recognize how different we are and the things around us that have adapted or changed in the previous year. The feeling of time passing is a complicated mixture of blessing and grieving.

One notable change for our church is having Wednesday night worship at Trinity Lutheran Church. The blessing is that the service has grown significantly since it has started and we have talented musicians to lead worship. While we are grieving that service that notably is not at St Johns and it is hard to claim it for us. It is human nature to think that when changes happen, it is a sign we failed or we are not enough. However, that is not true. Instead we have adapted into an offering of hope and partnership. This has become a chance where we can walk alongside in ministry with another church in worship.

Rediscovering a new normal is difficult and yet we are encouraged to look to God in the mixture of our emotions. Remember when Jesus was born, the world was turned upside down. It was a time to rejoice, but it was a time of anxiety and fear for people because of King Herod and the Roman Empire. God does not call us to stay idle; he calls us to be immersed in the Holy Spirit and to be transformed.

As St. Johns continually leans in to change we are reminded to allow the Holy Spirit to transform our ministry. Jesus accompanied us to remind us that change is a part of the rhythm of life and that WE ARE ENOUGH. May you find this promise to be true wherever your thoughts and feelings may be as we move into a new year.

Our calendars change, our goals, our lifestyles, and our expectations, however one thing remains the same: our journey with God. We continually walk with God as our guide who will never leave nor forsake us. Here is to a new year with God at our side and our eyes firming on the road ahead.

Pr. Lucas

**Adult Study Opportunity  
beginning January 8, 2020  
Dialogues On: Race**

"Dialogues On: Race offers a range of perspectives coming from Christian leaders at the front lines of conversation and action in the United States....[the study] is written to educate, challenge, motivate, and empower white Christians to fully enter the dialogue."

This study will be held from **7:15 pm to 8:15 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church**. You are also invited to worship at 6:30 pm before the meeting. A suggested donation of \$10 will offset the cost of the participant book.

To preorder a book, please contact Pr. Erik Weber at St. John's Lutheran Church 252-1198

**CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS – January**

For current and update calendar  
<http://www.st-johnslutheran.org/#/calendar>

**Sunday Worship**

9:00 am and 10:45 am - worship  
10:00 am Sunday School/coffee and fellowship

**Tuesday**

9:30 am Staff Meeting

**Wednesday**

4:00 pm 6-8th grade confirmation - St. John's  
6:30 pm Lutheran Worship - Trinity

**January 2020**

1/4 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
1/7 5:30 pm Special Council Meeting  
1/12 10:10 am Congregation forum on the budget  
1/13 5:30 pm Executive Meeting  
1/14 5:00 pm Evangelism Meeting  
5:30 pm Regular Council Meeting  
1/18 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
1/19 10:10 AM Congregation forum on the budget  
11:45 am Baptism Class  
1/26 10:15 am Annual Meeting  
12:00 pm Souper Bowl Meal

**February 2020**

2/1 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
2/6 5:30 pm Executive Meeting  
2/11 5:00 pm Evangelism Meeting  
5:30 pm Council Meeting  
2/13 10:00 am Eventide Communion and Worship  
2/15 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
2/16 11:45 am Baptism Class  
2/26 **ASH Wednesday** worship at St. John's



Hailey Thompson affirmed her baptism on Nov. 28th



Welcome New Members

Curry, Megan, Kamryn and Kaizer Kuehl

Kaizer was baptized 11/28





**Pianist:** Rachel Williams, Connie Wells, and Mark Wolf

**Acolyte:** Maddie Ede, Ty Kapp, Bennett Goehner, Maddie and Chloe Holstad, Braxton Perkins, Anya Bostan and Marissa Moltzen, Jaxon and McKenna Miller, Jordan Windingland, Jackson Seckerson,

**Greeters:** Selmer Bender, Walter and Mary Klundt, Margie Schrenk, Paulette Schumaker.

**Readers:** Jim Ritter, Ann Ede, Terri Bostan, Tonya Perkins, Cindy Wolff, Sandy Franke, Joan Enderle, Shelly Moltzen

**Communion Assistant:** Joan Enderle, Jim and Paulette Ritter, Carl and Sandy Franke, Char Freeberg, Cindy Wolff, Ann Ede, Bennett Goehner,

**Ushers:** Bill Ebele, Jolene Baltrusch, Walter and Mary Klundt, Glenn Johnson, Tom and Gale Scherbenske, Joyce Wilkinson, Jerry and Darlene Michel, Gary Lauf, Lloyd Landscoot,

**Communion Prep:** Altar Guild, John and Cindy Kleven, Cindy Wolff, Joan Enderle, Mary Klundt and De Landa Kollman, Jim and Paulette Ritter

**Projector:** Lynn Kruger, Char Perleberg, Connor Ede, Bobby Landscoot, Hannah Sjostrom, Aaron Kleven

**Van Drivers:** Dan Dockter, Tom Enderle, John Kleven, Don Walz, Howard Weispenning Jr.

Special thanks to those who decorate the church, insure the children bags have books and activities, Sunday School Teachers, individuals that are always available to lend a hand to shovel the snow, keep the front of the church clean, help with mailing. There are many that quietly go about doing what needs to be done and get it done when no one is watching. Thank you so much to all.



## Sponsorships

### Radio January

January 5	Pam Golde and Linda Misemer
January 12	(( AVAILABLE))
January 19	Gail Falck
January 26	Steve Hallberg



### Flowers January

January 5	Pam Golde and Linda Misemer
January 12	Brian and Erin Paulson
January 19	Gail Falck
January 26	Betty Frigen



## BAPTISM CLASS

**SUNDAY January 19 and February 16—11:45 AM**



## Address Change

Church address change: please send all mail to the street address of St. John's (424 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S.) Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> the PO Box will not longer be a valid address for congregational mail. New offering envelopes have the updated address, please recycle all old offering envelopes and any other items that have the PO Box listed.

## CHURCH MINISTRY

### FUNERALS

Sandra Robinson -d. 12/9  
Dawn Guthmiller - d. 12/10

### BAPTISM

Kaiser Leo Kuehl—11/28  
Lily Mae Walleen—12/22

### CONFIRMATION

Hailey Thompson—11/28



Greetings and God's Blessings to All!

Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays from the CIOH staff! At this time of year, as we look forward to spending time with family and friends, let us be grateful and joyful for the many gifts we have before us; peace, love, health, and presence.

It is the last month of what has seemed to be a very long and blessed year here at the center. We have so much to be thankful for as I have heard our parents express so much gratitude towards the staff here at the center. Little do they know we are not quite sure where we would be without all of them. This past year I have really seen the CIOH staff come together and we have all grown so much. Over half the staff is coming up on their 3rd year or more here with CIOH, two of them getting ready to celebrate their 9th and 10th year here at the center. The dedication that these girls put into this job every single day is beyond amazing. They truly make my job very easy to do...most days. I love knowing that if I am not here the center is well taken care of, and that parents are getting the care they need for their little ones.

The past month has been beyond busy for all the classrooms here at the center. All the full-time classrooms have been working so hard to fill the center with Christmas crafts and holiday cheer. They have worked extremely hard on gifts for mom and dad as well. In preschool all of them prepared really hard for their Christmas program which they all sang beautifully at. Preschool was also able to take a field trip up to Walmart and fill three angel tree Christmas tags this year. They even did a food drive to help stock the church food pantry as we have noticed it has been very slim pickings lately.

After the preschool Christmas Program, the preschoolers were able to eat cookies and drink hot Cocoa with parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and anyone else who attended for them. It is always such a heartwarming event getting to see how proud the preschoolers are of themselves and how proud their parents are. It has been a very rewarding holiday season this past month and we continue to celebrate and give back in anyway that we can here at the center. We look forward to what our new year has in store for us.

We want to wish you all a very merry Christmas and we will write to you again in the new year! Torrey Herrington, Director





*Gifts & Memorials*

**Fit for the Journey**

**FROM**

Kathy Block and Friends  
 Florence Goehner  
 Florence Goehner  
 Jim & Phyllis Lees  
 Jim & Phyllis Lees  
 Deloris Christy  
 Margie Schrenk  
 Margie Schrenk  
 Florence Goehner  
 Russ & Gwen Geiszler

**FOR**

Roger Block  
 Myron Tarno  
 Roger Block  
 Myron Tarno  
 Roger Block  
 Sandra Robinson  
 Sandra Robinson  
 Dawn Guthmiller  
 Dawn Guthmiller  
 Dawn Guthmiller

**ATTENDANCE**

**November 2019**

Sunday November      24      160

**December 2019**

Sunday December      1      76  
 Sunday December      8      244  
 Sunday December      15      276  
 Sunday December      22      182

GENERAL GIVING FOR November \$24,407. Our Monthly Target is \$30,000 of general fund giving.

**Special Congregation Forum** Jan 12 & 19 at 10:10 am  
 Council Members will present the proposed 2020 Mission and Ministry plan and our current financial health.

**Changes to Wednesday Programming-**

After three months, the decision has been made to stop offering meals as part of regular Wednesday Programming. Just not enough people were participating. The 5:30 bible study is now moving to 7:15 pm and will be a book study Dialogues On: Race for the next 8 weeks. Lutheran Worship will continue at Trinity with St. John's participation until Ash Wednesday, February 26th. Lenten worship and meals will be at St. John's.

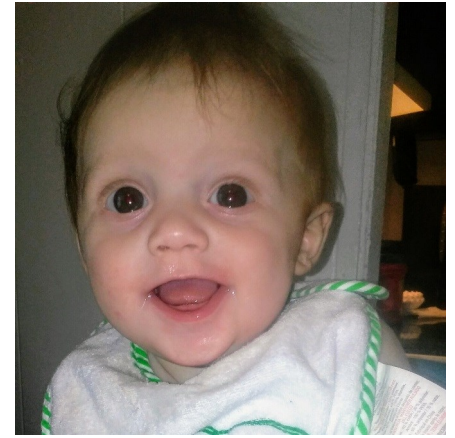
**Council Recap**

Nominees for Elections at annual meeting  
 President: Gary Staab  
 Vice President: Lynn Krueger  
 Secretary: (available)  
 Treasurer: Shelley Mack  
 At Large: David Gasal, Denise Steele, Cindy Kleven  
 Bishop Terry Brandt has announced his resignation effective January 15<sup>th</sup> 2020. (Interim Bishop Larry Wohlrabe will be with the Synod until the new Bishop begins to serve on September 1<sup>st</sup>). Public farewell activities will be held in Fargo on January 12<sup>th</sup>. The council heard an update on Pr. Erik's upcoming sabbatical plans including Anchor Church training, a trip to Sweden, and time at Holden Village. The council reviewed giving and expenses and wrestled with the difficult choices before the congregation in 2020. Additional meetings and communication pieces are being mapped out in the weeks leading up to the annual meeting on January 26th. A Fit for the Journey 2 proposal was tabled as the council looks at the current priorities.



Merry Christmas from Pr. Erik, Kristi, and Oscar Weber





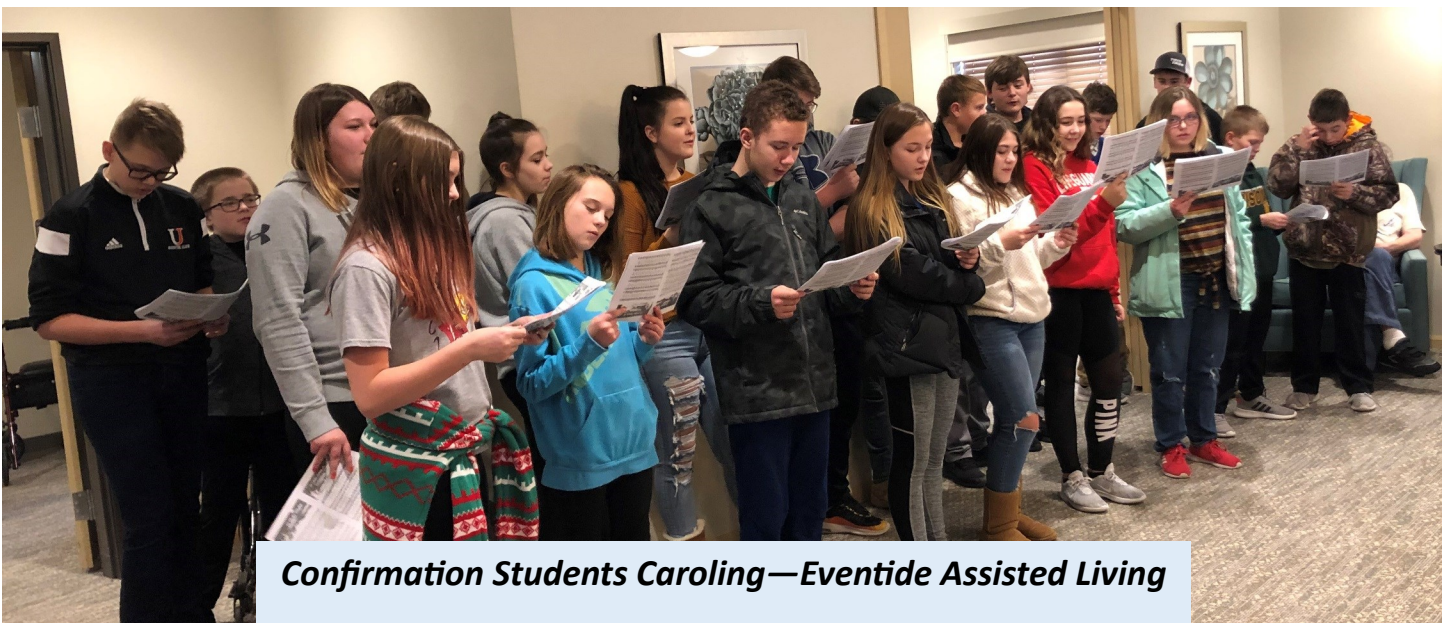
*Child in Our Hands Christmas Fun*



**Evangelism Team— Parade support**



**Pr. Lucas at the Christmas Program**

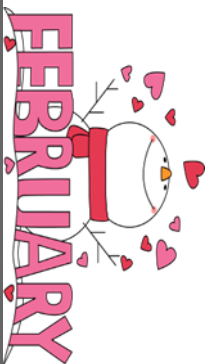


**Confirmation Students Caroling—Eventide Assisted Living**

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7.	30	31	1	2	3	4
		9:30 AM Staff Meeting	Church offices closed - New Year		Creative Fellowship	Creative Fellowship 10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Council Meeting	4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:30 PM Meal at Trinity 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	1:00 PM Farewell to Bishop Terry - Fargo		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:40 AM Congregation Forum 10:45 AM Worship	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 5:00 PM Evangelism Meeting 5:30 PM Council Meeting	9:30 AM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race			10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:40 AM Congregation Forum 10:45 AM Worship 11:30 AM Baptism Class	Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Altar Guild Meeting	4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	Pr. Ernk and Pr. Lucas - Jamestown Conference Leadership - Trinity Jamestown		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:00 AM Worship (1 service only) 10:45 AM Annual Meeting 12:00 PM Souper Bowl Meal	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel	4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race			10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Annual Meeting 12:00 PM Souper Bowl Meal	27 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	28 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel	29 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	30 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	31	1 10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study
2 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	3 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	4 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	5 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	6 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	7	8
9 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	10 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	11 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 5:00 PM Evangelism Meeting 5:30 PM Council Meeting	12 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	13 10:00 AM Eventide Communion and worship	14	15 10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study
16 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 11:30 AM Baptism Class	17 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	18 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting	19 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity 7:30 PM Dialogue on Race	20 Pr. Erik and Pr. Lucas - Jamestown Conference Leadership - Jamestown Faith - Valley City	21	22
23 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	24 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	25 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel	26 12:10 PM Imposition of Ashes 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:30 PM Ash Wed Worship - St. John's 6:30 PM Meal - St. John's	27	28	29



St. John's Lutheran Church  
 424 1st Ave S  
 Jamestown, ND 58401  
**Change Service Requested**

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Permit No. 1  
 Jamestown, ND  
 58401

**Worship Services**

Sundays

9:00 am  
 10:45 am

**Holy Communion**

**All Worship Services**

Church Office 701-252-1198

Preschool/Child Care 701-252-1903

Website: [www.st-johnslutheran.org](http://www.st-johnslutheran.org)

Email: [stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org](mailto:stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org)



**STAFF OF  
 ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN**

**Senior Pastor**  
 Erik Weber

**Associate Pastor**  
 Lucas Holsten

**Admin Secretary**  
 Gem Saied

**Custodian**  
 Frank Perleberg

**Child In Our Hands Director**  
 Torrey Herrington

**Choir Accompanist/Pianist**  
 Rachel Williams  
 Connie Wells

***Mark Your Calendar***  
***January 12 & 19 Congregational Forum***  
***between services regarding the 2020***  
***Mission and Ministry Plan***



**ANNUAL MEETING**

***January 26, 2020***

***10:15 am***

***12:00 pm Souper Bowl of Caring Meal***