

Church: (616) 842-4510

Pastor Kurt Wenzelburger
Youth & Family Life Director Craig Kaschube
Music Director Tracy Wood

St. John's Lutheran Church
(a congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)

www.st-johns-lutheran.com

527 Taylor, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Traditional: 8:15 a.m. With Communion
Contemporary: 10:30 a.m. With Communion
Saturday Night: 5:00 p.m. With Communion

School: (616) 842-0260
Daycare: (616) 414-5499

Administrator/Business Manager Laura Harvey
Early Childhood Education Director Heidi Bohn



Faith at Home



Bulletin deadline: Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. **Newsletter deadline** is the 15th of the month.

Please email announcements to office@slcs.org.

January 6/7, 2018
The Epiphany of Our Lord
St. John's Lutheran Church—Grand Haven, MI



Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church and School

This Weekend's lessons are found in... *Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12, and John 1:1-14.* The message, presented by Pastor Kurt, is entitled "***If All Begins with Light***", and it's based on John 1:5.

Prayer before worship: *"Merciful God, we humbly implore you to cast the bright beams of your light upon your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of your truth and at length attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord."*

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a public confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor, or are invited to come forward to receive a blessing by simply crossing your arms on your chest.

We have gluten-free communion wafers, as well as, non-alcoholic wine – just ask the pastor when you come up for communion.

A note to parents of young children – We welcome and encourage the participation of all children in our worship, cooing and crying and all; however, there is an unmanned nursery downstairs available. There are also Green Activity Bags in the entryway containing many fun things to occupy your children. **Childcare is available downstairs in the nursery** every Sunday during Bible Study time.

To the members of our church – The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

For Pastoral Needs – Please contact the church office at 842-4510 or office@sjlcs.org.

Our Stewardship of Time and Talents – January 7 – 13, 2018

Calendar

***all meetings are in the Social Hall unless otherwise designated**

- SUN. 8:15am Traditional Worship
9:30am Bill Burmeister (CEF) Legacy Planning Seminar in the Multi-purpose Room
9:30am Augsburg Confession Bible Study in the 5th/6th grade Classroom
9:30am Sunday School
9:30am Junior/Senior Youth Bible Study in the Youth Room in the church basement
10:30am Contemporary Worship
2:30pm Robbinswood Assisted Living Worship
6:00pm Winter Jam Concert at the Van Andel in Grand Rapids
- MON. 9:00am Prayer Shawl meeting
10:00am Quilters in the church basement
11:30am Recorders
2:30pm Boy's basketball
7:00pm Family Matters
7:00pm All Boards meet
- TUE. 8:00am Pastors' Circuit Meeting at St. John's
6:30pm Men's Bible Study
7:00pm PTL Meeting
11:30am Recorders
- WED. 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study -- cancelled
10:00am Chapel
2:30pm Boys' Basketball
6:30pm Confirmation class
7:00pm Celebration Choir
- THUR. 7:15pm Praise Team
- FRI. Pastor Kurt's day off
2:30pm Boys' Basketball
- SAT. 9:00am Administrative Review
5:00pm Worship

Stewards

For the weekend Jan. 6/7

Elders: Matt Williams

Acolytes:

5:00 Matthew Uthe

8:15 Cafie & Jacob Vossekuil

10:30 Dorian Cipolla

For the weekend Jan. 13/14

Elders: Tim Harvey

Acolytes:

5:00 Avery & JJ Parylak

8:15 Hudson Shake

10:30 Molly & Penny Williams

December Altar Guild:

Joyce Carlson (616) 844-4128



the
**Light shines in
the Darkness**

St. John's Prayer Page

Please lift up the following in prayer...

Those Celebrating Birthdays:

CANAVAN, Bob	01/08
RICHERT, Theresa	01/08
UTHE, Scott	01/08
FETT, Joan	01/09
FRANK, Helga	01/12
ORTQUIST, Mary Jo	01/12
TOLLIVER, Carmen	01/12
WENZELBURGER, Michelle	01/12
DARA, Thomas	01/13
LIGGETT, Samuel	01/13

Those Celebrating Anniversaries:

DORA, John & Mickey (63)	01/07
SIBLEY, Ted & Tammy (40)	01/07
HARLOFF, Harold & Carol (59)	01/10

Lutherans For Life Quote:

"Our happiness, therefore, does not depend on a new year or a changed situation, but upon the Lord and our changed relationship, our deepened growth, in Him and in terms of His will for us ... 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you' (Matthew 6:33 KJV)." *R. J. Rushdoony, philosopher, historian, and theologian* – A Life Quote from *Lutherans For Life* •

www.lutheransforlife.org

Prayers for the Grieving:

For the family of **Kathie Gannon** who passed away on January 3, 2018. She is the wife of **Joseph Gannon, Sr.**; mother of **Joseph (Michelle) Gannon, Jr.**; grandmother of **Joseph Gannon, III & Kaylee Gannon**; and daughter of **Jim & Joan Fett**.

Prayer Requests from our Connect Cards:

Healing for **John DeJong** as he struggles with side effects of chemo.

For **Kara Mollner** (Holly Spink's friend's daughter) - her surgery went well, however, she's having healing complications.

For **Bill Gierke** - thanking God for his recovery and continued healing.

For travelers.

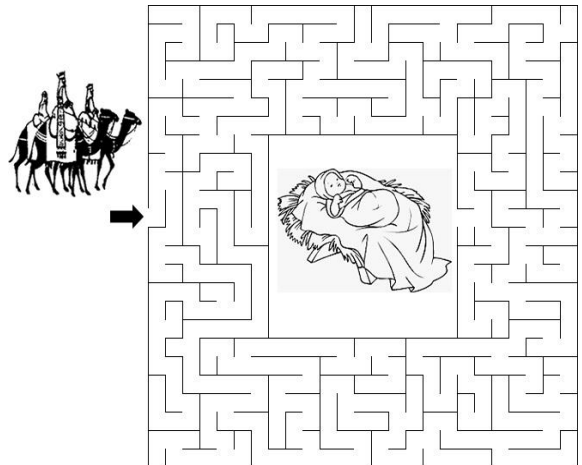
Other Prayers:

For **Dennis Johnson**, under hospice care at Sanctuary at McAuley. For **Ken**

Luytjes undergoing surgery on Thursday.

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Kids! Can you help the Magi find Jesus?



"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:2

NEWS AND NOTES
Our Stewardship of the Word

Attendance: Sat.: 5:00 – 20, Sun.: 8:15 – 70, 10:30 – 97; **Total: 187**

Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve

Our Stewardship of Gifts

\$18,523.00 is needed weekly for our ministry

General Fund Gifts Received: \$11,010.50

Also received for: BUTC \$1,296, God's Pantry \$200, Financial Freedom \$600, Debt Reduction \$5,640, Project HOPE \$900

Simply Giving (online giving) totals for December: General Fund: \$9,638, Building: \$732, Missions: \$100, School: \$260, TOTAL: \$10,730

Memorials

In memory of Ron Mistretta to the General Fund by Dave & Rita Scalici; to God's Pantry by Karen Ralya

101 Ways to Love Your Wife: Rent a Sign – Proclaim to the neighbors and your wife that she is the best. If you feel daring, obtain a rent-a-sign and put the phrase "America's Greatest Wife" or "Wife of the Year" on it in big black letters. If that's not your style, create banners that you can put up inside your home that still show how much you appreciate her.

God's Pantry/Social Ministry: Contact Marlene Guske (842-6879) for food pantry and meals; Monica Boeve (846-5588) for all other financial assistance; Bonnie Bringadahl (607-8076), for meals for the sick/injured. **Pantry needs:** Package noodles and cereal

2018 Offering Envelopes can be picked up from Social Hall. Thank you for joining us in the support of our Lord's mission through the ministry we do here at St. John's. Any offerings given after Dec. 31 will be on your 2018 statement.

Writing a Will: Join Bill Burmeister, Michigan District-Church Extension Fund Gift Planning Counselor, this Sun. at 9:30am, to learn the importance of writing a will or trust and how to get started. Learn how to witness through your own last will and testament, so your children and grandchildren will inherit the blessings of your wisdom. Bill can also help you explore a variety of possibilities for fulfilling your legacy goals while making a significant gift to ministry at the same time. There is no cost or obligation to you and all conversations are kept confidential. For more information contact Bill at (800) 242-3944 or bill.burmeister@mi-cef.org.

Save the date! St. John's Lutheran School Auction date is set for Fri., Mar. 23 at Porto Bello's! We look forward to having another great year supporting our school. Our theme this year is "Michigan Awesome". Do you have something to donate that is Michigan awesome? Or a cabin in Michigan you would want another family to enjoy the awesomeness of Michigan? Please remember us during your holiday shopping. If you have any questions feel free to contact Megan Vink (616) 566-8289.

Confirmation News: Mark your calendars for the following dates – Our second year confirmation students will share their Statements of Faith on Sun., Jan. 28 at our 10:30am worship service. They will then be confirmed on Sun., Feb. 4 at our 10:30am worship service.

Men's Bible Study



Men's Bible Study – Coming Soon! The Parish Board of Education and Faith At Home is offering a morning Bible Study for men starting on Tue., Feb. 20, 2018 at 6:30-7:30am and continuing for the ensuing five Tuesdays after that. The study, entitled 33 Series: A Man and His Design, is designed to inspire and equip men to pursue authentic manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ in His 33 years on earth. The study contains six sessions that explore the basic foundations of authentic manhood and God's clear design for men. The study starts with meaningful insights into the current state of manhood, which will help men navigate through some realities that have created cultural confusion. It follows by unfolding God's mandates for all men and offering a clear definition of authentic manhood that will help men on their journey. Each participant will learn the four "faces" of manhood and how to anticipate and transition through the specific seasons of life. The study will be facilitated by Pastor Kurt and/or Craig Kaschube. Each session will have a video of 30-35 minutes in length and have some brief discussion afterward. The sessions will begin promptly at 6:30am and be over promptly at 7:30am for those of you that have to go to work, etc. We will have coffee and donuts available for each one of the sessions. See you then.

National Lutheran Schools Week: Jan. 21-27 is National Lutheran Schools Week and we are celebrating here at St. John's Lutheran School. The theme for this special week, It's Still all about Jesus, is based on the verse Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." This week allows us the opportunity to join with more than 2,000 schools in giving thanks and praise to the great God we serve. We are grateful for the challenge that we have been given to train and equip our students who attend our schools. Please plan on joining us on Sunday, January 21, 2018 as we begin this special week celebrating in the knowledge that our Lord and Savior is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Grand Haven Calendars: If the City of Grand Haven didn't already mail you a calendar, please be sure to grab one from the Narthex (back of church). One per family please. St. John's is highlighted for the month of April!

To All the Members of St. John's Church & School: Thank you for welcoming me into your family over 25 years ago and remembering me as I celebrate my 25th year in the ministry. God certainly blessed me when I received my 1st call to St. John's and He continues to bless me today. God's Blessings, Debbie Pierce.



ST. JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP SUPER BOWL 6" SUB SANDWICH FUNDRAISER

2018 ORDER FORM – PLEASE COMPLETE FULLY & LEGIBLY

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

COST: \$2.50 each or 10/\$20.00 (\$1.00 more per double meat sandwich)

** Submit payment (cash or personal check to "St. John's Youth") with order form **

SUBS ORDERED: _____

TOTAL COST: \$ _____

MEAT CHOICES:	QTY.	DOUBLE MEAT?	AMERICAN CHEESE CHOICES:
<i>* Bun is a 6" white hoagie *</i>		<i>* Write # of subs for double meat *</i>	<i>* Write # of subs with/without cheese *</i>
Ham	_____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes-DM _____ No-DM _____ Yes _____ No _____
Turkey	_____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes-DM _____ No-DM _____ Yes _____ No _____
Ham & Turkey	_____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes-DM _____ No-DM _____ Yes _____ No _____
Ham & Salami	_____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes-DM _____ No-DM _____ Yes _____ No _____
Ham, Salami, & Turkey	_____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes-DM _____ No-DM _____ Yes _____ No _____
* EXAMPLE ORDER FOR SARAH & STEVE SUBMARINE *			
Ham & Turkey	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> Yes <u>3</u> No	<u>0</u> Yes-DM <u>1</u> No-DM <u>3</u> Yes <u>0</u> No
Ham, Salami & Turkey	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u> Yes <u>2</u> No	<u>2</u> Yes-DM <u>2</u> No-DM <u>1</u> Yes <u>1</u> No
<i>Their order's total cost is \$25.00 (10 subs for \$20, \$5.00 extra for 5 double meat subs)</i>			

Submit order form and payment using the Social Hall drop box by Sunday, 1/28/18.

Pickup orders at church after worship Saturday, 2/3/18 or Sunday morning, 2/4/18.

Take Heart, Take Action: Everywhere we go, we go as a witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But what does it mean to be a witness? How can my witness persuade someone to believe? How can I be a witness to people who really don't seem to care about church or the faith? Take Heart, Take Action is a theological conference for laypeople and church workers, and the featured speakers will share practical advice and insight into our calling as witnesses of the Gospel. Please join us on Feb. 24, at Our Savior Lutheran Church (7910 E. St. Joe. Hwy., Lansing), 8:30am to 3:00pm. Registration cost (includes lunch): \$20 - Early Bird; \$15 - Early Bird Student. In support of MI District "Great Compassion Ministry", this Theological Conference will partner with St. Paul Community (Pontiac, MI) which meets people where they are with the Gospel. A list of needed items is available at www.michigandistrict.org/events/theological18.



Register for Take Heart, Take Action at <https://events.michigandistrict.org/calendar/2018-takehearttakeaction>.

Live Stream: We will be offering a free live stream of the event. To register and receive a link to the live stream, please register for streaming at <https://events.michigandistrict.org/calendar/2018-takehearttakeactionstreaming>.

