



**ST. JOHN**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Mission Messenger!

Living our faith. Enriching lives.



## JANUARY 2026 INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Blessed New Year! Even in troubling times such as this, we can still trust God's unchanging and everlasting love to guide us through. We spent Advent unearthing, claiming, and even embracing our fear. But we know that's not easy. So here is one more poem from Pastor Sarah Speed to gently guide us forward:

*I will not tell you to buck up,  
to tough it out, to ignore the fear  
rattling around in your chest.  
I will not tell you that all shall be well  
or that morning will come quickly.  
I will not ask you to march into danger  
without first repeating your name in my prayers.  
But if fear stops you in your tracks,  
if fear makes it hard to breathe,  
hard to move,  
hard to think,  
then I will remind you  
that even one step with shaking knees  
is a step toward home.*

Let's keep taking those steps. That's a new year's resolution we all can keep!

God be with you all the way!  
Pastor Doug

### PLAN NOW TO ATTEND:

Ask the Council Forum on Sunday,  
Sunday, January 18th at 9:00am.

### Congregational Annual Meeting

will be held on Sunday, Jan. 25th at  
9:00am in the sanctuary.  
Annual reports will be available for  
you to pick up two weeks  
prior to the meeting.



# HOSPITALITY & CELEBRATION

December 15, 2025

To my St John Lutheran Church family:

Please know of my deep gratitude for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support as I continue my seminary journey. Your partnership in my formation for ministry is a profound gift that I do not take lightly. Please know that your support allows me to focus more fully on learning, prayer, and preparation for Word and Sacrament ministry, trusting that I am upheld by a community that I know is rooted in Christ's love.

One of the hardest parts of seminary is not being able to regularly attend services at St John. My ministry site is keeping me busy on Sunday mornings though I do hope in the new year to be able to come "home" to worship more often. I miss every aspect of St John very much and desire to remain connected as much as possible to my family of faith!

Thank you for believing in God's work through future leaders of the Church and for accompanying me on this journey. Please know that you remain in my prayers, and I give thanks for you often. I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

With gratitude and hope,

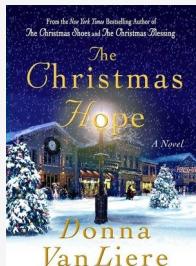


Judy Koeune-Brown  
ELCA Seminarian  
Wartburg Theological Seminary



Thank you for your gifts supporting the DPCO Christmas Store. Together we provided a brighter Christmas for over 200 families of the De Pere area.

That's amazing.  
Thanks be to God!



## St. John's Book Club will meet on Thursday, January 15th at 1:00 PM.

We will meet in the Luther Room. We will be discussing The Christmas Hope by Donna Van Liere. Patricia and Mark Addison have long given up hope of having a meaningful Christmas. But this year, Patricia's job as a social worker will lead her to a very special five-year-old: Emily. Against her better judgement, Patricia bends the rules and takes the little girl into her own home. If you were unable to attend the December meeting, extra copies of the book may be available at church. Contact Donna Hjorth (920-371-0852) for more information. Everyone is welcome!

## CONFIRMATION CAROLING



On Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, our Confirmation students went caroling at Nicolet Highlands and the Residence at Renaissance Assisted Living and Memory Care. It was wonderful to see the smiles the students brought to the residents faces and to have them sing along! Thank you Jill Q. for leading us!!





# WORSHIP AT HOME



**CALL TO WORSHIP** † *Make the sign of the cross. Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. Amen.*

## **CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

Reconciling God, we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

## **DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE PSALM 27:1, 4-9**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.



*Read the appointed lesson for the day. Take time to reflect and discuss its message or journal your reflections.  
Let the Holy Spirit guide you.*

## **†JANUARY 4TH** **SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

### **John 1:1-18**

*John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **†JANUARY 11TH** **BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

### **Matthew 3:13-17**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God’s child.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# WORSHIP

## DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE CONTINUED

†JANUARY 18TH

### SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

#### John 1:29-42

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

#### Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

†JANUARY 25TH

### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

#### Matthew 4:12-23

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

#### Prayer of the Day

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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## PRAYERS

*Pray for the church, the world, your prayer list, the people in the church directory and anything else that the Holy Spirit places on your heart.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

## OFFERING

God calls us to give generously of our hearts and gifts. How will you live and give today?

Visit [www.stjohndepere.org](http://www.stjohndepere.org) to give online.

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## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the

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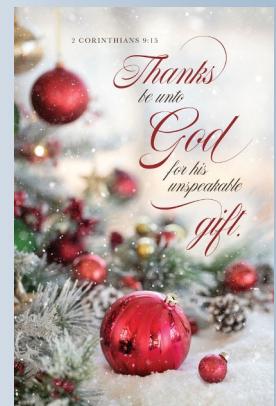
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible, copyright 2021, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



# WORSHIP



Thank you to all our musicians for sharing their musical talents & to all who gave a Poinsettia plant to adorn our worship space.



# WORSHIP



## YOUTH-full Joyful Noises



Beginning Sunday, January 4th, the Youth Music Schedule for the new year will combine the Youth Choir and Children's Choir into one Choir for the remainder of the school year. They will rehearse together from 9:30 to 9:45 a.m. most Sunday mornings. Due to "Undeck the Halls" on January 4th, music time will take place in the GREAT room." Otherwise, music time will typically be in the Sanctuary.

If questions, please reach out to Jill Quigley at 920-360-5772



The next Praise Band Sunday will be January 11th. See you then!

### ADULT CHOIR

rehearses the first 3 Sundays of the month in the choir room at 9:00am. We are always looking for new members.



Thank you to everyone who played a role in the success of the Sunday School and Youth Choir Christmas Program. The program would not be possible without the help of all the adults, students, teachers and direction from Jill Quigley.



## FAITH FORMATION

### 3yr old - 4th grade Sunday School January Lessons



**9:00am in classrooms  
9:45am pick up your child  
in the sanctuary**



**Jan. 4th**

*Jesus the Word*  
John 1:10-18



**Jan. 13th**

*Baptism of our Lord*  
Matthew 3:13-17



**Jan. 18th**

*The Lamb of God*  
John 1:29-42



**Jan. 25th**

*Annual Meeting Day-  
All Sunday School  
event with Sarah in the  
GREAT room  
Children's/Youth  
Choirs Sing at 10am*

### **Faith Formation 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation students**

Confirmation classes resume for all on Wednesday January, 7<sup>th</sup> 6:30 - 7:30 pm.



How are you doing on completing Sermon notes? Remember the expectation is that you complete 2 per month. Be sure and email, bring them with you to class or put in Pastor's mailbox after worship.

# FAITH FORMATION



**5th-12th grade youth**  
Join us for Synod Snow Tubing on January 17th! We'll gather at Kewaunee Winter Park at 10:00 a.m., and the event will run until 2:00 p.m. You're welcome to arrive or depart at any time during the event. The cost is \$10 per person for a two hour tubing pass. There is a chalet with a concession stand with limited items if youth would like to bring additional money. Please RSVP to Tammy MSYouth@StJohnDePere.org by January 10th if you plan to attend.



Our next D & D campaign will be starting in January! The table is open to 6th -12th grade youth on January 11th, February 8th, March 8th, & April 12th. Please RSVP to Sarah at youth@stjohndepere.org if you plan to attend the January event.



## CHRIST CARE

Christ Care meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at **10:00am**.

Questions?  
Please call Carlyn at 920-983-0327

## MEN IN MISSION

Men in Mission meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month @8:30am. On **January 21st** we will be meeting at Nicolet Restaurant and then back to church for Bible study. Scriptures: **Matthew 3-4. The very beginnings of Jesus.** If you have any questions call Jim Johanek at 920-323-0833.

## Crossways Camp 2026

Confirmation students are expected to attend a Crossways Camp at least once during their time in our confirmation program.

(But more is even better!!)

Follow this link to register your child (or your family) and be sure and let Pastor know the week you're attending.

<https://www.crosswayscamps.org/summer-camp>

This link is good for all age levels, not just confirmation age! **\$200 scholarships toward a full week of camp are available.** (Camperships also available for families, grandparents and younger/older students attending a Crossways camp.)

Students and families are eligible for scholarships **every year!**

Contact the office for more information regarding scholarships.



There is something for every age! Grandparent/kid camp, Family camp, Camp Jr. for pre-ks, HS Leadership camp and of course special camp weeks for 1<sup>st</sup> grade through High School.

# MISSION & SERVICE

If you, a loved one, or a friend would like to have prayers, please call Karen Cota at 920-632-2015 or e-mail Carlyn Cooper at clpdkcm@tvc.com.

We will get your requests out to our faithful prayer warriors.



Hi from Mission sewing,

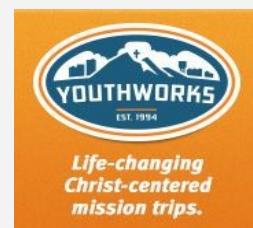
We met every Thursday from 9am until noon if anyone would like to come and see what we do or to join us. You don't have to stay the whole time if time does not permit. This past year we made 308 quilts. I would like to thank our sewing group

Ruth, Donna, Marsha, Sandy, Lin, Kris, Mary T, Judie, Mary B. Kris and everyone else that stopped in to help tie the quilts and those that brought in gently used sheets. Also, thanks go to Sybol Hoppe students who have been sorting, counting and bagging the squares anyone to take home to sew.  
~Judy Beerntsen



## 8th-12th graders!

Now is the time to sign up for next summer's mission trip to Niagara Falls July 25th-August 5th. Email Hollie at [missiontrip@stjohndepere.org](mailto:missiontrip@stjohndepere.org) to tell her you want to go or to find out more. Sign up forms are available on the youth bulletin board.



## PRAYER requests

Please hold in healing prayer, Susan Armstrong, John & Carol Grom, Shannon Johnson, Carole Tobisch, Gerry Bos, & James Sucha.



This month's focus for the DPCO Food Pantry is **Boxed Cereal**.

Despite the multiple food drives this past month, we are low on the following items and could use your help:

\* Toiletries

\* Laundry Detergent

\* Oatmeal



## NEW COMMUNITY SHELTER 301 Mather St, Green Bay

Volunteers from St. John serve and/or provide desserts for the evening meal on the first Saturday of each month from 4:30 - 6:00pm. Thank you to those who served and provided desserts the month of December. Please sign up on the ministry board at church or using the QR Code for a time that works for you to volunteer or provide desserts.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Van Asten at 920-540-3750 or [suanasten744@gmail.com](mailto:suanasten744@gmail.com).



# MISSION & SERVICE

## St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting November 18, 2025 7:00pm

### 1. Attendance:

Present: Pastor Doug, Sean Day, Steve Leiterman, Kourtney Feldhausen, Mike McMullen, Amy LaBelle, Kim Ronsman, Susan Van Asten, & Katie Schneekloth.

Absent: Tom Baciak

### 2. Call to Order:

Sean called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### 3. Scripture study, discussion, and prayer:

Scripture selection from Luke 23:33-43 read by Susan. Following discussion, Kim led the prayer of the day.

### 4. Approval of Agenda:

Sean asked for a motion to approve tonight's Agenda or for any changes. The motion was made by Steve; second by Kim. Motion carried.

### 5. Approval of Consent Agenda:

Sean asked for a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda or for any changes. The motion was made by Katie; second by Amy. Motion carried.

## Discussion Agenda

### New Business

#### 6. Nominations for the Call Committee (one or two should hold over from MSP team) -7 is a great number

#### 7. Breakfast church on December 28th ? (led by council and other leaders?)

- Would be a 9am service & Breakfast will be simple

#### 8. Responsibility of council members reaching their term, and expectation of nominating replacements

- Any outgoing council member is placed on the nominating committee with some other congregation members
- Not an option to stay on for another term
- January 2026 terms end for:
  - \* Katie Schneekloth
  - \* Kim Ronsman
  - \* Susan Van Asten

#### 9. Stained glass ornaments

- Hold for now due to lack of material availability

### Old Business

#### 10. HVAC update

- I spoke with Brian from Forman Heating today. He said everything with the new boiler system is up and operational. He also said they would be checking the system as it gets colder outside to see if anything needs to be adjusted. I am going to meet with him the first week of December to go over some aspects of operating the system.
- Total received was \$16,900 that went to Trust Fund
- Trust Fund matching \$15,000
- Total bill only increased by \$5700 due asbestos removal

#### 10. Transition

- Two week survey using Hard copies and QR code to access

#### 11. RIC Update

- Another meeting to come

#### 12. Upcoming Capital Improvements

- Under \$3000 for new camera (no longer use iPhone) on side of sanctuary (see choir, not just pillar), microphones and new stream deck for upstairs.

\* May not be installed by end of year, but will be purchased by end of year

#### 13. Land Use Update – Long Range Planning.

- Community Garden.
- Columbarium

\* Have person on board to help if/when we are ready to pursue

## Ministry/Committee Reports

(FOR A COMPLETE COPY OF THE MINUTES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE)

**Adjournment:** Since no further business was evident, Sean asked for a motion of adjournment. The motion was made by Kim; second by Steve. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm concluding with the Lord's Prayer

**Next Council Meeting: December 16, 2025 7:00pm**

**Minutes submitted by:** Kourtney Feldhausen, Council Secretary

# MISSION & SERVICE

**St. John Lutheran  
Treasurer's Report  
Statement of Cash Flow  
November 30, 2025**

2025	Envelopes	Electronic Giving	Loose	Other	Total	Expenses	Actual Net +/-	Budget	Budget +/-
January	\$12,475.00	\$13,288.50	\$241.00	\$1,332.30	\$27,336.80	\$28,091.46	-\$754.66	\$31,084.00	-\$2,992.54
February	\$14,055.00	\$13,223.15	\$202.00	\$3,583.51	\$31,063.66	\$27,574.62	\$3,489.04	\$31,084.00	-\$3,509.38
March	\$18,866.42	\$13,834.56	\$289.00	\$5,203.95	\$38,193.93	\$27,654.66	\$10,539.27	\$31,084.00	-\$3,429.34
April	\$13,265.00	\$13,664.09	\$726.00	\$3,891.45	\$31,546.54	\$31,319.40	\$227.14	\$31,084.00	\$235.40
May	\$10,010.00	\$13,213.22	\$192.00	\$1,838.54	\$25,253.76	\$36,237.01	-\$10,983.25	\$31,084.00	\$5,153.01
June	\$17,500.00	\$13,443.31	\$181.78	\$1,565.09	\$32,690.18	\$25,561.58	\$7,128.60	\$31,084.00	-\$5,522.42
July	\$12,664.78	\$13,873.44	\$211.25	\$1,381.48	\$28,130.95	\$26,210.60	\$1,920.35	\$31,084.00	-\$4,873.40
August	\$11,841.00	\$13,476.50	\$193.00	\$21,483.89	\$46,994.39	\$55,450.50	-\$8,456.11	\$31,084.00	\$24,366.50
September	\$16,359.00	\$13,981.35	\$151.00	\$3,640.51	\$34,131.86	\$43,735.87	-\$9,604.01	\$31,083.00	\$12,652.87
October	\$11,857.00	\$13,568.50	\$256.00	\$1,330.23	\$27,011.73	\$78,837.43	-\$51,825.70	\$31,083.00	\$47,754.43
November	\$16,976.75	\$13,092.19	\$158.00	\$1,505.23	\$31,732.17	\$41,473.90	-\$9,741.73	\$31,083.00	\$10,390.90
December									\$31,083.00

<b>2025 Total</b>	<b>\$155,869.95</b>	<b>\$148,658.81</b>	<b>\$2,801.03</b>	<b>\$46,756.18</b>	<b>\$354,085.97</b>	<b>\$422,147.03</b>	<b>-\$68,061.06</b>	<b>\$373,004.00</b>	<b>\$80,226.03</b>
<b>MO. AVG</b>	<b>\$14,170.00</b>	<b>\$13,514.44</b>	<b>\$254.64</b>	<b>\$4,250.56</b>	<b>\$32,189.63</b>	<b>\$38,377.00</b>	<b>-\$6,187.37</b>	<b>\$31,083.67</b>	<b>-\$3,250.96</b>

<b>Nicolet Bank Checking Balance 11/30/25</b>	<b>\$24,804.50</b>
<b>Nicolet Bank Savings Balance 11/30/25</b>	<b>\$98,535.36</b>
<b>PCM Savings</b>	<b>\$22.41</b>
<b>CFCU CD Matures 2/27/26</b>	<b>\$84,037.82</b>
<b>Designated MIF CD Matures 2/11/26</b>	<b>\$27,607.00</b>
<b>Bank Total 11/30/25</b>	<b>\$235,007.09</b>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	28	29	30	31	1	2
						4:30pm - NEW Comm <b>Shelter Meal</b>
	4	5	6	7	8	9
						10
8am - Worship 9am - Adult Choir 9am - HS/College Coffee 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship		10am - Christ Care 6:30pm - Confirmation	9am - Mission Sewing 2pm - Finance Mtg			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						10am - MS Tubing Event
8am - Worship 9am - Adult Choir 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11am - <b>D&amp;D Campaign</b>		6:30pm - Confirmation	9am - Mission Sewing 1pm - Book Club			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8am - Worship 9am - Adult Choir 9am - Ask the Council 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship	5:45pm - Trust Fund 7pm - Council Mtg	8:30am - Men in Mission 10am - Christ Care 6:30pm - Confirmation	9am - Mission Sewing <b>1:30pm - Celebration &amp; Outreach Meeting</b> <b>1:30pm - Trust Fund Meeting</b>			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8am - Worship 9am - Annual Meeting 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship		6:30pm - Confirmation	9am - Mission Sewing			

De Pere, WI 54115  
1700 Lost Dauphin Rd.  
St. John Lutheran Church

## WORSHIP & CONTACT INFO

St. John Lutheran  
Church Council Members  
Contact via: [office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)  
or office ph (920) 336-1082

Sean Day - President  
Steve Leiterman - Vice President  
Kourtney Feldhausen - Secretary  
Mike McMullen - Treasurer  
Kim Ronsman - Stewardship  
Katie Schneekloth - Faith Formation  
Tom Baciak - Property  
Amy LaBelle - Worship & Music  
Susan Van Asten - Celebration & Outreach

Visit us on the web for weekly services!

[www.stjohndepere.org](http://www.stjohndepere.org)

and on our FB page

[www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranDePere](http://www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranDePere)  
and subscribe to our YouTube channel for  
worship

### WORSHIP TIMES

#### Sunday Service

8am & 10:00am Service

Education - 9:00am



### **OFFICE HOURS**

8:00am – 3:00pm

Mon - Thurs

Hours may vary.

Please call ahead.

Ph. 920-336-1082

[office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)

**Rev. Doug Holtz**

[pastordoug@stjohndepere.org](mailto:pastordoug@stjohndepere.org)

Office Phone 920-336-1082

Cell - 920-251-8345

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

January 18, 2026

Send submissions to

[office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)