



# Mission Messenger!

Living our faith. Enriching lives.



## IN PERSON WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### BEGINNING JANUARY 2, 2021

Responsibility for the physical and mental well-being of the congregation is something your Council takes very seriously. Each month we discuss in depth if it is safe and wise to gather again for in person worship. We make the decision by relying on data, science and the advice and direction of health experts. Those sources strongly advise that now is not yet the time to again worship as we once did.

*So how else might we safely gather?* The answer the Council has come up with is “in small numbers, for spoken liturgy, scripture and Holy Communion as the service is being recorded.”

*What does that mean?*

It means that a small group (12) people will be invited to gather in the sanctuary on Saturday mornings at 10:00 am. as we record the spoken parts of the service.

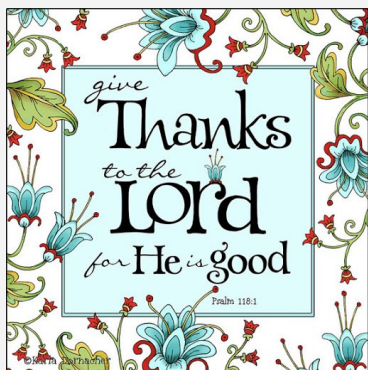
To facilitate this, we ask the following:

- ✝ You must sign up ahead by either calling the church office or through sign up genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084caea728a0fd0-service>)
- ✝ You must mask while in the building and not congregate inside before or after the service.
- ✝ You attend no more than once a month in order to allow as many different people to participate as possible. (You can have your name put on a wait list in case spots remain open.)
- ✝ You do not attend if you have any symptoms of illness or have been exposed to someone who is ill or tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 10 days.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this together.

*The Church Council & Pastor Cindy*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
ANNUAL MEETING - ZOOM  
JANUARY 24TH @9:00AM**



# Hospitality & Celebration

## **ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 24, 2021**



Out of deep concern for the continued well-being of the congregation, the Council has voted to hold the Congregational Annual meeting via zoom. (see resolution on pg 3 of this newsletter).

To help everyone become comfortable with this format, there will be two "Ask the Council" sessions prior to the Annual Meeting. You are encouraged to attend one of these to not only familiarize yourself with the

format but to also ask questions.

Annual Reports will be emailed by January 6<sup>th</sup> and hard copies will be available for pick up at the church beginning Sun. Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>.

Here are the links to the meetings. If you do not have a computer, you can participate by calling in, using the phone number listed and the meeting ID.

### **Ask the Council 1**

Jan 10, 2021 9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89946917009>

Meeting ID: 899 4691 7009

Or phone in at 1-312-626-6799

### **Ask the Council 2**

Jan 17, 2021 09:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84838219827>

Meeting ID: 848 3821 9827

Or phone in at 1-312-626-6799

### **Congregational Annual Meeting**

Jan 24, 2021 09:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83231518919>

Meeting ID: 832 3151 8919

Or phone in at 1-312-626-6799

## **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**

The Thrivent Choice Program allows Thrivent Financial members to choose where Thrivent distributes its charitable outreach grant dollars. Thank you to all who have listed St. John as a recipient!

Remember to contact Thrivent to indicate where you would like your Choice Dollars to go. For questions, more information, or to start designating Choice Dollars, please contact Thrivent directly 1-800-THRIVENT.

Thank you for your gifts supporting the DPCO Christmas Store. **Together we provided a brighter Christmas for 137 families of the**



**De Pere area.** Families that included 217 adults and 377 children. That's amazing. Thanks be to God!



Moved, dropped your land line or changed your email address?

Please notify the office at 920-336-1082 or by email, [office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org).

## CONSENT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL OF St. John Lutheran Church Adopted through unanimous vote 12/15/2020

The members of the congregational council (the “Council”) of St. John Lutheran Church, a Wisconsin religious body (“Church”), acting pursuant to Chapter 187 and 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes, adopt the following resolutions at a duly held meeting of the Council of the Church held on the 15 day of December, 2020:

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin is living through a pandemic and threatening the health and well-being of persons.

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the State of Wisconsin are strongly encouraged to avoid large indoor gatherings of people, including in houses of worship.

**WHEREAS**, the Church intends to conduct the business of the church including but not limited to; approval of the 2021 budget and election of Council members which will require a vote by the members of the Church.

**WHEREAS**, the Church’s bylaw and constitution do not allow remote meetings of the members of the Church.

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Statutes § 181.0207 allows the board of directors or similar bodies of nonstock corporations and similar organizations to adopt emergency bylaws to allow for the operation of the Church during emergency events.

**WHEREAS**, the Council deems it to be necessary and advisable, and in the best interest of the Church, to adopt emergency provisions of the Church’s constitution to allow for remote meetings of the members of the Church.

**RESOLVED**, that the constitution of the Church is amended by inserting the following at C10.08.:

Upon the occurrence, and for the duration, of any “emergency” as that term is defined in Wisconsin Statutes § 181.0207(1) this congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any and all actions taken by the members of the Council, whether heretofore or hereinafter taken or done, which were or are intended to be in conformity with the purposes and intent of the above resolutions be, and hereby are, in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.





THANK YOU

CHARLIE AND SHARON KUSSOW

for providing the beautiful live tree adorning  
our sanctuary.

## WORSHIP SERVICES ON DVD



Would you like to see our recorded services but don't have internet access? We now have them available on DVD. Please call the church office, 920.336.1082 to request a copy and we will get them to you!



## WORSHIP AT HOME

Available each week on the ELCA worship blog (<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/3060/>) are materials for "Worship in the Home." Consider ways to pray and sing using this resource at home. In addition to Sunday worship resources, Daily Prayer in the Home is available, providing simplified forms of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer, as well as table prayers."



CHURCH  
AT HOME



Pastor handing out communion on  
Sunday's between 9:00 - 10:00am.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Please call the church office 920-336-1082 and let us know that you are unable to pick up Holy Communion and you would like it to be brought to you. Pastor or another volunteer will bring Communion to you. Please know that they cannot enter your residence. You will need to be able to meet them at the door or outside.

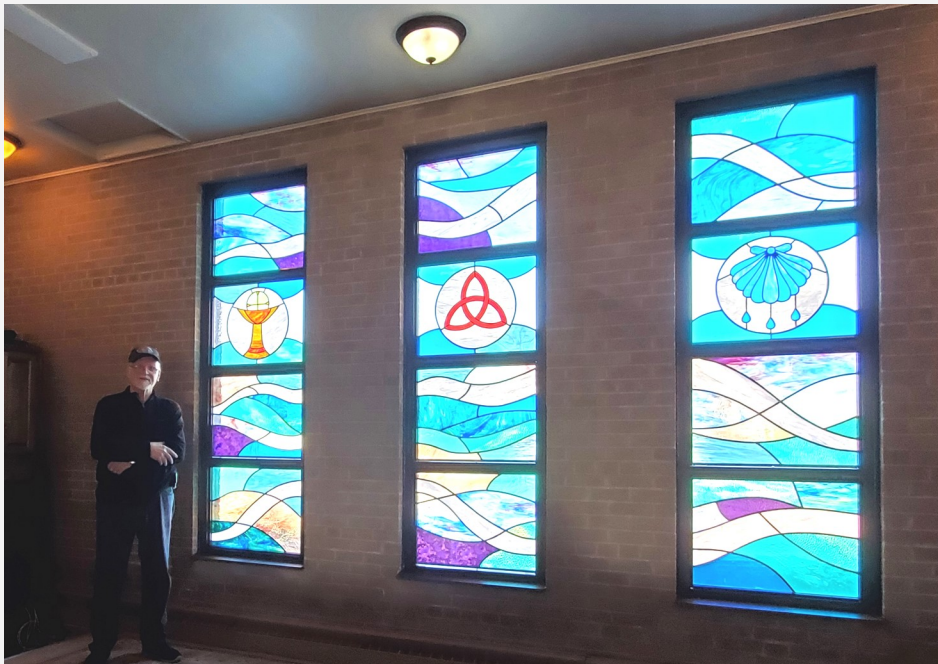
# Worship



The choir area stained glass was completed and installed in December. It looks stunning! What's next? I'm glad you asked! St. John was blessed with a designated gift that will allow us to commission work on the chancel stained glass! (The wall of windows behind the altar).

Construction of the individual panes will begin in late January.

Tom has extended the invitation to any St. John member who may want to stop by his studio after the work has begun and see the project in progress.



Pictured with the windows is Tom Pecor from The Glass Haus. He is the artist who built the windows.

# Worship

*Christmas Eve looked somewhat different this year,  
but the true meaning of Christmas will never change;  
hope for a better tomorrow.*





## WORSHIP AT HOME

*Use this resource to worship while we are unable to be together. Know that even though we are apart; we remain connected as the body of Christ.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** † *Make the sign of the cross.* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Amen.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

Trusting in the mercy of God, we confess our sin.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. **Amen.**

Receive this assurance; By the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. We live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE PSALM 62:5-12**

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God. <sup>6</sup>God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken. <sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>Put your trust in God always, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge. <sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath. <sup>10</sup>Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it. <sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God. <sup>12</sup>Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

*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.*

#### **†JAN. 3RD**

##### **John 1:10-18**

*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.**

#### **†JAN. 10TH - BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

##### **Mark 1:4-11**

*Mark’s gospel reports the story of Jesus’ baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.*

##### **Prayer of the Day**

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### **†JAN. 17TH**

##### **John 1:43-51**

*In John’s gospel, Jesus’ ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip’s friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to “Come and see.”*

##### **Prayer of the Day**

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# Worship

## DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE CONTINUED

†JAN. 24TH

### Luke 2:1-14

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



### SING PRAISE

(Page 6)

ELW #461

†JAN. 31ST

### Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

### Prayer of the Day

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### SING PRAISE

(Page 6)

ELW #655

## 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.

### 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 glory, forever, and ever. Amen.

### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.





# Worship

## As With Gladness Men of Old

ELW#302

- 1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.
- 4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.
- 5 In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing alleluias to our king.

## Baptized and Set Free

ELW#453

- 1 We are people created, chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door  
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.
- 2 We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.  
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.  
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:  
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.
- 3 We are nourished by water, all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:  
precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.
- 4 Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be  
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

## This Little Light of Mine

ELW#677

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW#461

- 1 All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- 2 All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- 3 All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed.  
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

## Son Of God, Eternal Savior

ELW#655

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,  
you our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead:  
fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.
- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
we but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain,  
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, stem our selfish greed of gain.
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race:  
by your praying, by your willing that your people should be one,  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.



# Faith Formation



## SERVICE WITH (MASKED) SMILES!



2020 challenges did NOT stop our teens from giving of their time and talents this holiday season! THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered their time to help our community this month!

At the annual Salvation Army Toys for Tots event, Camryn Baciak and Eva Westein joined Kristin to help families select gifts for their kids. From toys, to books, to family games, and hats/mittens, it was great to see parents' eyes light-up when they found that "perfect" gift.

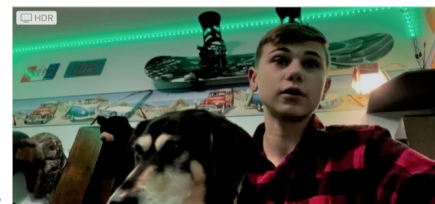


Bells were ringing for the Salvation Army! Cade and Elliot Feldhausen and Jonah Bouchard spent some time at Bay Park Square mall, and Gabby Pawlak and Kennedy Raboin rang bells at Cabela's. Are there more of you bell ringers (or other volunteers) out there?? Please email Kristin ([kristin@stjohndepere.org](mailto:kristin@stjohndepere.org)) with a photo (if you



have one) so we can give a big shout out on Instagram!

Our Sunday School kids enjoyed a very special video for their Christmas lesson. Singing, reading and joyful photos highlighted the production, posted on our website and FaceBook page. Thank you, thank you for everyone who gave of their time including, Trista Schepp, Camryn Baciak,



Ryan Usiak, Nathan Wesoloski, Anna Nimmer, Bryce Paape, Grace Van De Ven, & Leslie-Ann Novitski. It was so special! Finally, another large donation of desserts was given to the New Community Shelter at the beginning of the month. Thanks to all the families who shared their delicious goodies! The efforts of our youth and their families to give back and help others, amidst an ever-changing world, has been truly humbling. Thank you, thank you for sharing your gifts!

High school youth groupers enjoyed Christmas porch deliveries from Kristin and middle school youth received a special "sus" card in the mail for Christmas!



# CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Remember to visit the Website for Sunday School activities.

# Faith Formation

## Anxiety, Questions, Concerns.

For some, the holidays are amazing. For others, not so much. PLEASE call myself or Pastor Cindy with your concerns. We'd LOVE to talk with you, pray for you and support you and your families in any way we can. Prayers make such a difference, and so does asking for help.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Cindy or call/text Kristin at 920-360-6045 or email at [kristin@stjohndepere.org](mailto:kristin@stjohndepere.org). We are here for you!

# Mission & Service

Hi from Mission Sewing,  
We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. We are hopeful that we will be able to get together in 2021 to begin sewing again. Have a safe and healthy New Year. Judy Beerntsen



*Wishes & Prayers for Healing*

### WE PRAY:

**"Praise the Lord: praise God our savior! For each day he carries us in his arms."**

**Psalm 68:19**

**Please hold in healing prayer,  
Larry Armstrong, Gerry & Sandy Bos,  
Michael Johaneck, Fianna Kaye,  
Seth Meinel and Sandy Murphy.**

## CELEBRATION AND OUTREACH

In 2021, St. John will be focusing on collecting the following items each month for the DPCO Food Pantry.

January	Laundry Soap
February	Canned tuna
March	Dried spaghetti/noodles
April	Spaghetti sauce
May	Boxed pudding/jell-o
June	Cereal
July	Baked beans
August	Mayonnaise/salad dressing
September	Peanut butter
October	Canned spaghetti
November	Thanksgiving Food Drive
December	Reverse Advent Calendar



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 [clpdckm@twc.com](mailto:clpdckm@twc.com). We will get your requests out to our faithful prayer warriors. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29

Please join us for **WOW on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:00pm.**

We are reading pages 120-184 for our January meeting of The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd. Please watch for announcements to whether we are meeting virtually or in person.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>27</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Coffee Hour 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	28	29	30	31	1	2
<p>3</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Coffee Hour 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>10</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Ask the Council-Zoom 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>17</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Ask the Council-Zoom 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>24</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Annual Meeting-Zoom 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>31</p> <p><b>WORSHIP ONLINE</b> 9am - Coffee Hour 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via website</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6

## Worship & Contact Info

### **St. John Lutheran Church Council Members**

Contact via: [office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)  
or office ph (920) 336-1082

Andrew Tobisch	President
Sean Day	Vice President
Jim Johaneck	Secretary
Mike McMullen	Treasurer
Jenna Benjamin	Worship & Music
Gail Ryan	Worship & Music
Dave Broderick	Property
Beth Challe	Faith Formation
Rick Johnson	Mutual Ministry
Kaitlynn Labs	Celebration/Outreach

### WORSHIP TIMES

JOIN US ONLINE



#### NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

January 15, 2021

Send submissions to

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

Visit us on the web for weekly services!

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

and on

[facebook.com/StJohnDePere](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnDePere)

and visit our YouTube channel for weekly worship by following this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCl1cjRdeaDr3N5fYKeuRUw>