



## THE SPIRIT OF ST JOHN

ST JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JOSEPH WOLF, PASTOR

DECEMBER 2023

### OUR VISION STATEMENT

“To embrace the gift of who we are as God’s people in this Community and move out into the world to live as Good News proclaimers and doers.”

### WEB PAGE

<https://www.stjlithopolis.com>

### FACEBOOK PAGE

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

### E-MAIL

[office.stjohnlithopolis@gmail.com](mailto:office.stjohnlithopolis@gmail.com)

CHURCH PHONE: 614-837-2947

## PRAYERS

ALAN BUTTERBAUGH  
LEOLA CREIGLOW  
DUANE BEHRENS  
JIM & NANCY FOGLE  
LINDA & JON LEIST  
BILL & CHARLOTTE MEYER  
SAM PEARSON  
ED & FRED RUTTER  
LEE SMITH  
SHIRLEY WEST

## HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

2 JIM FOGLE  
4 DEBBIE LONG  
9 RYAN RUTTER  
11 DON HORBECK  
19 JONETTE CHRISTY  
22 LARRY WEST  
31 GUY O’NEIL

**COUNCIL NOTES  
NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

**ATTENDEES:** Sally Acton, Bonnie Butterbaugh, Jonette Christy, Marianne Daily, Mike Drodofsky, Shirley Evens, Alan Fisher, Jon Leist, Charlotte Meyer, Chuck Wolcott, Ruby Wolcott

**ABSENT:** Tina Anderson, Pastor Wolf

Council approved the October 17 council minutes.

Alan Fisher presented the proposed 2024 budget to council. This will be presented to the congregation for approval at the congregational meeting on December 10.

Discussion was held regarding the December 10 services. It will be mostly musical with presentation from members of the congregation as well as choir.

Annual congregational meeting will be held December 10 following church.

There will be two services on Sunday, December 24. The regular service and another one in the evening (7:00 music, 7:30 service)

Due to the days becoming shorter and darkness earlier, council meeting for December will be held on December 17 following the service.

Jon Leist shared his proposed decorating plans for Christmas. Plans are to decorate the church on November 28 at 2:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to help.

St John's will be participating in a bake sale at The Wagnalls Simply Christmas event on December 9 with St John XXiii. Volunteers will be asked to sign up to work the bake sale and to provide baked goods. All money raised will be donated to Bloom Crisis Fund.

Thrivent – Ruby Wolcott asked that we include information regarding Thrivent grants so that people will apply for these grants to assist the church with projects. Information is to be included in the Spirit.

Meeting adjourned by praying the Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE DECEMBER 17 FOLLOWING CHURCH**

Respectfully submitted, Marianne Daily, Secretary

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE TO ELECTRONIC GIVING, OR  
UPDATE CURRENT PARAMETERS FOR 2024, PLEASE CONTACT  
MIKE DRODOFSKY AT 614-837-4827 OR  
DRODOFM@YAHOO.COM.**

# COMING IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER 3,10,17,24,31 – SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:30 AM  
DECEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27 – CHOIR PRACTICE 3:30 PM  
DECEMBER 12 – GIRLS LUNCH-NOON @ MARIANNE DAILY'S (CANAL WINCHESTER)  
DECEMBER 17 - COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING CHURCH @ CHURCH

## ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 3

### Special Services

**DECEMBER 10 – WILL BE SPECIAL MUSICAL PRESENTATIONS DURING THE SERVICE.**

**FOLLOWING THE SERVICE WILL BE OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**DECEMBER 24 MUSICAL PRESENTATIONS BEGINNING AT 7:00 PM  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT 7:30 PM**

#### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

**ITEMS NEEDED ARE HAMBURGER HELPER, MANWICH AND TOOTHPASTE. PLEASE BRING YOUR ITEMS AND LEAVE THEM IN ONE OF THE RED BASKETS IN THE NARTHEX.**

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flower chart is in the Narthex where you may sign up to place flowers on the altar. Flowers are \$35. You may leave the money in the envelope under the chart for Linda Leist. Please be sure to indicate if the flowers are for a special occasion.

#### Worship Attendance??

Our average weekly attendance has exceeded 40 TWO times in the last 2.5 years. Why can't we get our attendance up? Is our service too long or short? Is it too 'traditional'? Is it boring? Do the music/songs appeal to you? Is the service uplifting? Do you feel God's presence in our worship?

Do you have any suggestions to increase our attendance or improve our service?  
Church Council REALLY WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK...

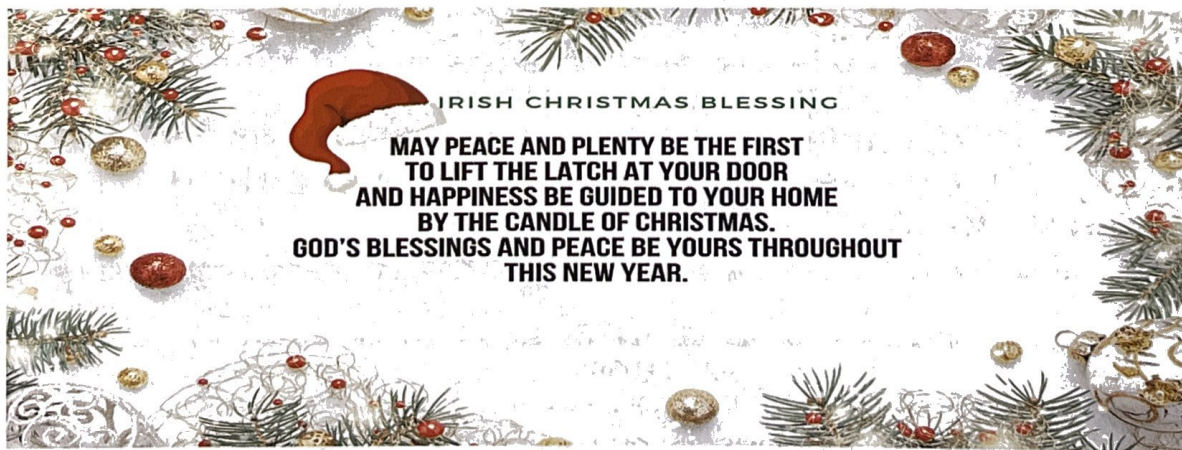
PLEASE we want to know your thoughts - Your identity will be kept in strictest confidence

*Girls Lunch* – December 12 at the home of Marianne Daily (231 Hocking St, Canal Winchester) at noon. Bring a dish to share, dessert provided. Also bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange.

Adopting a Bloom Carroll student. We had an opportunity again this year to participate in a program where we were given the name of students and items that we could purchase to help make their Christmas a little brighter. We had 15 members of the congregation participate, which allowed us to adopt 10 children. From our congregation alone we donated more than \$1500 worth of items for these students. This was a wonderful way to assist families in our community. A big thank you to those that participated.

Sally Acton, Marianne Daily, Karen Fowler and her daughter Kayla, Neva Hornbeck, Pam Jarvis, Diana Johnson, Jon & Linda Leist, Sue Mason, Charlotte Meyer.

And a big thank you to Sue Mason and Charlotte Meyer for organizing and to Gina Meyers for delivering all the items.



*Wishing you and your family many blessing this Christmas season.*

### CHURCH COUNCIL

*Sally Acton*

*Fina Anderson*

*Bonnie Butterbaugh*

*Janette Christy*

*Marianne Daily*

*Mike Drodafsky*

*Shirley Evans*

*Alan Fisher*

*Jon Leist*

*Charlotte Meyer*

*Chuck Wolcott*

*Ruby Wolcott*

*Pastor Wolfe*

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP 10:30	4	5	6 CHOIR 3:30	7 Hanukkah	8	9
10 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 10:30 WORSHIP	11	12 GIRLS LUNCH-NOON	13 CHOIR 3:30	14	15	16
17 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP 10:30	18	19	20 CHOIR 3:30	21 Winter Begins	22	23
24 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 10:30 WORSHIP 7:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE	25 	26 Kwanzaa	27 CHOIR 3:30	28	29 SPIRIT	30
31 						

COUNCIL

