



THE SPIRIT OF ST JOHN

ST JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JOSEPH WOLF, PASTOR

JANUARY 2024

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

CHURCH PHONE: 614-837-2947

PRAYERS

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

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY

13 ALAN FISHER
15 NEVA HORNBECK
26 JUDY KELLETT
30 MIKE DRODOFSKY
31 NANCY FOGLE

GIRLS LUNCH BUNCH CHRISTMAS LUNCH WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 WITH A GIFT EXCHANGE. WE HAD LOTS OF DELICIOUS FOOD PROVIDE BY THOSE IN ATTENDANCE. PICTURED BELOW ARE – JANET ROBERTSON, PEGGY SMITH, GINA MEYERS, SHIRLEY EVANS, DIANA JOHNSON, RUBY WOLCOTT, MARY MERRITT, SUE MASON AND CHARLOTTE MEYER



CHOIR CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS HELD FOLLOWING PRACTICE ON DECEMBER 20. EVERYONE BROUGHT A SNACK TO SHARE. PICTURED ABOVE ARE: ALAN FISHER, NANCY FISHER, JON LEIST, LINDA KNICLEY, PEGGY SMITH, BONNIE BUTTERBAUGH, JERRY DAILY, DIANA JOHNSON, FRED RUTTER, ED RUTTER, CHARLOTTE MEYER, SUE MASON, SALLY ACTON AND TIM ACTON.

COMING IN JANUARY

JANUARY 7,13,21,28 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM CHURCH SERVICES 10:30 AM
JANUARYR 3,10,17,24,31 CHOIR PRACTICE 3:30 PM
JANUARY 9 GIRLS/GUYS LUNCH @DELANEY'S, GROVEPORT
JANUARY 21 - COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING CHURCH @ CHURCH

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

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.

COUNCIL NOTES
DECEMBER 2023

NO MEETING

INCLUDED WITH THIS SPIRIT IS A COPY OF THE 2024 BUDGET APPROVED AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 10 FOLLOWING CHURCH.

Motion: **To Approve/accept the Church Council recommended yearly budget of \$69,750 for 2024.**

To clarify: This budget reflects the anticipated operational expenses for 2024. At the discretion of Church Council funds received in excess of this amount could be used:

- To rebuild St. John's savings account,
- To fund needed capital improvements,
- To replace funds that were borrowed from the MEF accounts
- To make additional ceiling loan payments

Category	Description	Interval	2020	2021	2022	Projected	2024 Proposed	Council Approved
Benevolence	S:Ohio Synod	mon				200	2,400.00	2,400.00
Church Ops	Paychex PR processing	mon	159	178	160	100	1,500.00	2,900.00
Church Ops	Vanco Electronic Fees	mon	22	22	19	20	1,400.00	
Pastor	Pr Joe Contract	yr				36,900	36,900.00	36,900.00
Staff	WorkersComp/6mo	bi-ann	232	273	186	125	250.00	11,450.00
Staff	PayRoll Taxes/mo	mon	311	337	302	80	1,600.00	
Staff	Salaries/mo (choir,organ,cust.)	mon	5,347	5,348	3,725	800	9,600.00	
Trustees	Copier Lease	mon	113	132	143	150	1,800.00	
Trustees	Electric	mon	201	205	263	300	2,800.00	13,700.00
Trustees	Insurance/Qtr	qrtl	-	-	980	980	4,000.00	
Trustees	Nat. Gas	mon	88	116	183	225	1,500.00	
Trustees	Phone&Internet	mon	151	159	89	100	1,200.00	
Trustees	Repairs (Minor, day-to-day)	mon	70	147	100	100	1,200.00	
Trustees	Water&Sewer/Qtr	qrtl	183	210	271	280	1,200.00	
Worship	Communion Supplies	mon				25	300.00	
Worship	Sheet Music (4x75)	qrtl	-	-	-	75	300.00	
Worship	Sub-Organist (8x @ \$50)	qrtl	-	-	-	100	400.00	
Worship	Sub-Pastor (13x65)	mon	-	-	-	75	900.00	
Worship	Prep Software	yr	533	520	478	500	500.00	

Proposed 2024 Budget: **69,750.00**

2023 Financial Data through 12/6/23

Operational

	Checking	Savings	Total
EOY 2022	9,776.20	1,000.10	10,776.30
Deposits	79,427.17		
Bought 10k CD	(10,000.00)	10,039.48	
Expenses	(59,811.95)		
Ceiling Income	8,275.00		
Ceiling Expenses	(9,518.28)		
	=====	=====	=====
Balance 12/6/23	18,148.14	11,039.58	29,187.72
TD Change	8,371.94	10,039.48	18,411.42

Mission Endowment Fund

	MEF CD	Vanguard	Total
EOY 2022		137,820.24	137,820.24
MEF CD	41,454.20		41,454.20
Earnings		6,366.41	6,366.41
	=====	=====	=====
Balance 12/6/23	41,454.20	144,186.65	185,640.85

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2	3 CHOIR 3:30	4	5	6
7 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP 10:30	8	9 GIRLS/GUYS LUNCH-NOON DELANEY'S GROVEPORT	10 CHOIR 3:30	11	12	13
14 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 10:30 WORSHIP	15 <small>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</small>	16	17 CHOIR 3:30	18	19	20
21 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP 10:30 COUNCIL AFTER CHURCH	22	23	24. CHOIR 3:30	25	26	27
28 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 10:30 WORSHIP	29	30	31 CHOIR 3:30			