

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street
York, PA 17401-1307
Phone: 717-843-8597



Fax: 717-699-1227

Website: www.firststjohns.com

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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



PARISH VISITOR

FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH

Be together at First St. John's - Your Community Church and Your Family in JESUS

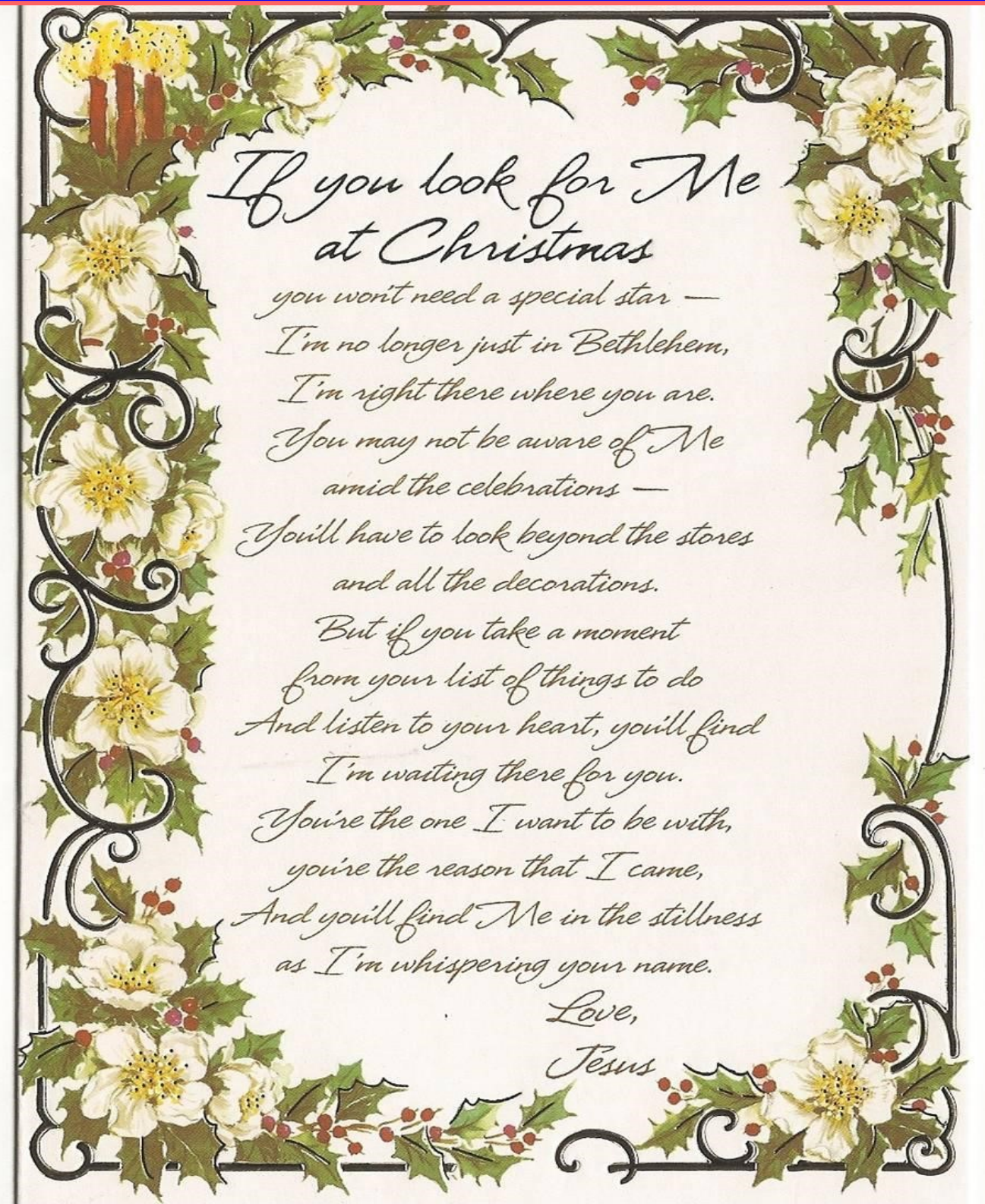
Monthly
Newsletter



VOLUME 50 ISSUE 12

Website: www.firststjohns.com

DECEMBER 2018





SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERVICE 11:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

Sunday -	11:00 AM Sunday Worship *
	9:00 AM Bible Study *
Monday -	PANERA BREAD DISTRIBUTION 9:30-11:00 AM
Wednesday	6:30 PM - Adult Choir
Thursday	6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.firststjohns.com

WELCOME

Our major objective is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

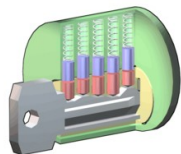
Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: firststjohns@verizon.net

First St. Johns Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York PA 17401
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New high security key-locks were installed on the front and back entrance doors of the church. The new key fits both locks. If you have the old entrance keys please discard them.



SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to firststjohns@verizon.net.



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: **717-843-8597**

OR

EMAIL: firststjohns@verizon.net



STEWARDSHIP: DECEMBER 2018

Throughout his epistles and his preaching recorded in the Book of Acts, St. Paul refers, in one way or another, to thanksgiving and thankfulness nearly 50 times. Whether vertically toward God, or horizontally toward the neighbor, thanksgiving is a major theme within St. Paul's body of work.

What does this mean? It means thankfulness is intrinsic to the life of those baptized into Christ. In other words, giving thanks is what Christians do as they live out their lives in this world.

The problem is that we often forget this. Consider your average, run-of-the-mill, normal day. When you get home, and your parents, your spouse or your children ask about your day, what first comes to your mind? After 99 percent of things went right, went exactly as planned, were enjoyable and blessings, we tend to focus on and remember the 1 percent of things that went poorly, that didn't go as planned, and that were nuisances.

We remember the bad things. We focus on discontent. And we fail to give thanks in all circumstances for everything (Eph. 5:20) and to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4).

Thankfulness and contentment go together. We are content with things for which we are thankful. St. Paul could be content with having plenty or when in need because He gave thanks to the Lord for all things. He thanked the Lord for those who had prayed for him and listened to his proclamation of the Gospel. He gave thanks for their good works in and for the Church of Christ. He gave thanks for the grace of God in Christ Jesus and found that God's grace was sufficient for him.

So, give thanks for all things and in all circumstances dear brothers and sisters in Christ. For you have been saved from sin, death, and hell by the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. You have been added to the very family of God in an adoption of grace through Holy Baptism. God is your Father. Our Lord, Jesus Christ is your brother.

But He not only provides for your spiritual well-being, He cares also for this body and life. Your Father in heaven provides food and clothes, house and home, husband, wife, and children. He gives you reason and all your senses. He has given you the raw talents that you have developed into careers. Everything you are and everything that you have is a gift from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in you.

Give thanks for these things. Make a list – every morning if you must. Say them out loud. Sing about them within the congregation of the saints. And remember this: God has given you these things so that you may be of service to those around you – your family, your neighbors, your brothers and sisters in Christ. For to whom much is given; much shall be required (Luke 12:48).





Holy Communion (continued)



The Pax Domini, (the peace of the Lord), comes next. It announces the gift of peace to all believers.

The Agnus Dei, (Lamb of God), is a beautiful hymn in which we adore Christ, here present in the Sacrament, and pray for mercy and peace in the Sacrament.

The next part is the actual Distribution. This is when the worshiper partakes of the body and blood of our Lord, a treasure and mystery beyond human understanding.

Post-Communion

The first item is the Nunc Dimittis, the Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32), which expresses our joy and confidence after having partaken of the life-giving food.

The Versicles and Collect, (prayer) of thanksgiving come next

The next part is the Salutation, which introduces the final part of the service.

Next is the Benedicamus, which means "Let us bless" and invites the congregation to join once more in praising God. To this invitation the people respond with "Thanks be to God."

The last part is the Benediction, which is the blessing that concludes the service.

Certain parts of the service change and others do not. For example, the Introit, Collect, Gospel, and Epistle may change from Sunday to Sunday, whereas the Creed, Kyrie, and Benediction remain the same. The parts of the service that change are called the Propers; the parts that do not are called the Ordinaries.



*Ken Sanders
Minister of Music*

THE ADULT CHOIR: Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Quitao Zhang, Ding Wang,
Maria Stankiewicz, Brian Stankiewicz



The special offering for the month of
DECEMBER
York Rescue Mission



DECEMBER 2018 PARISH VISITOR

JANUARY 2019 DEADLINE

Articles Due December 21st - Friday

Mail Date December 27th - Thursday

The newsletter will be prepared and sent later due to Christmas



SERVICE TIME



Join us 11:00am Sundays!



MEETINGS IN DECEMBER



Worship Committee

To be announced

Church Council

No Church Council Meeting in December

Future Committee

Wednesday 9:00 am-(Fridays as needed)

UPCOMING DECEMBER SERVICES

December 2nd, Communion (1st Sunday in Advent)
Proclaimer-Reverend James Banach

December 9th, Non-Communion (2nd Sunday in Advent)
Proclaimer-Geoff Abendschoen

December 16th, Non-Communion (3rd Sunday in Advent)
Proclaimer-Geoff Abendschoen

December 23rd, Communion (4th Sunday in Advent)
Proclaimer-Reverend James Banach

December 30th, Non-Communion (1st Sunday after Christmas)
Proclaimer-Geoff Abendschoen



**Sunday
SERVICES**

OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS
Bible Study 9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597
For updates refer to Website calendar at
DECEMBER 2018

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Bible Study 9:00 am. Morning Worship starts at 11:00 am. The fifth Sunday of the month (months with five Sundays), will be a Prayer and Preaching Service.						1
2 1st Sunday in Advent C/ Blue	3 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	4	5 Adult Choir after service ADVENT EVENING SERVICE Light Supper-6:00 PM Service-7:00 PM	6 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	7	8
9 1st Sunday in Advent HOLLY AND IVY CONCERT 3:00 pm NC/ Blue	10 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	11	12 ADVENT EVENING SERVICE Light Supper-6:00 PM Service-7:00 PM Adult Choir after service	13 No Church Council Meeting in December N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	14	15
16 1st Sunday in Advent NC/ Blue	17 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am	18	19 ADVENT EVENING SERVICE Light Supper-6:00 PM Service-7:00 PM Adult Choir after service	20 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	21	22
23 1st Sunday in Advent (Lessons and Carols Service) C/ Blue	24 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:00 PM	25 CHRISTMAS	26 Adult Choir 6:30 pm	27 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	28	29
30 1st Sunday after Christmas GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE 4:00 PM NC/ Blue	31 Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am New Years Eve	LAY READER:	USHER Dave Stambaugh		ALTAR GUILD: Lois Stambaugh	SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS DECEMBER York Rescue Mission



FIRST SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 West King Street
York, Pennsylvania 17401



Come and worship this Advent / Christmas season in our beautiful historic church. Learn of the promise of a Messiah, the Savior of the world. Go on the road trip with Mary and Joseph as the travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, all while Mary is "great with child." Hear where the baby is born and who came to visit Him.

Join in the singing of some of the beloved hymns and carols of the season.

Enjoy some special music presented by John Pfeiffer, Ken Sanders, and special guest, Cody McSherry (accordion, piano, and organ).

Then come and worship Christmas the way the founding fathers of First Saint Johns (St. John} Lutheran Church did at the annual "German Christmas" worship service.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League's "Holly and Ivy Concert" and the "German Christmas Worship" are the special events that will happen on two Sundays during the Christmas Season.

Holly & Ivy Concert

Sunday, December 9, 3:00 P.M.

Light refreshments will follow the concert.



German Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 30, 4:00 P.M.

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.



ADVENT WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings

Come and worship with us and hear about the coming of the promised Messiah on Sunday mornings at 11:00 A.M.

December 2nd

December 9th

December 16th

December 23rd (Lessons and Carols).



ADVENT WORSHIP

Wednesday Evenings

Begin by having a light supper at 6:00 P.M. in the fellowship room.

Then join in a special series of sermons for Advent at 7:00 P.M.

December 5th

December 12th

December 19th



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP



There will be an opportunity to worship the "New Born Baby" on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, December 24th, 7:00 P.M.



Unto Us a
Child
is Born

Sick & Shut-in



Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive
York, PA 17402
Birthday-September 30th

Joyce Devan

2408 Lovegren Court
York, PA 17404
Birthday-February 20th

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street
York, PA 17401
Birthday-April 21st

Bill Hildebrand

3530 Fox Run Road
Dover, PA 17315
Birthday-September 17th

Gloria Whitekettle

2361 Log Cabin Road
York, PA 17408
Birthday-November 23rd

Ruth Hermann

Lutheran Home Skilled Care
Room 404A
1801 Gladfelter Circle
York, PA 17404
Birthday-Feb 11th

If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BIRTHDAYS HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR OUR PRECIOUS SHUT-INS.

As we enter the Christmas season we as Christians focus on the birth of our beautiful and holy savior Jesus Christ. Because of his infinite love for us he entered the world to suffer and die for our sins. He offers eternal life with him to those who accept his gift of salvation. He welcomes us into his family.

As a loving family, we at First St. John's encourage you to reach out to those members who you have not seen for weeks, months or even years. Show them that you are concerned for their physical / spiritual welfare and that you miss having fellowship with them. Invite them to our many services and events in December.

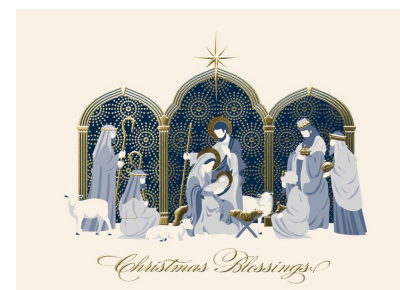
Wednesday Night Advent Services

Sunday Services

Holly and Ivy Concert

Christmas Eve Service

German Christmas Service



For unto you is
born this day
in the city of David a
Saviour
which is
Christ the Lord.
- Luke 2:11
©www.a-simple-christian.com



PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle
 Christians especially in the Middle East—persecuted
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
 Becky Lupp-illness
 Angie Linebaugh-Illness
 Susan Null-Cancer
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
 Marianne DeModena-Cancer
 Patti Tripp-COPD
 Christine Neal (Bonnie Abendschoen's cousin)-Flu.
 Bill Stockwell-Heart Procedure
 Brenton Allen-Kidney failure
 Olivia Stankiewicz-Healing (Grand-daughter of Brian and Maria Stankiewicz)
 Noel Van Sliedrecht-Accident
 Beth Smith
 For the people affected by Hurricane Michael
 Gary
 Nancy
 Norma Null-Sprained Back

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Lu Huan-Obtaining visa
 Vanessa Cussack-Lost Son
 Mary Sue Bottstein-Injured in car accident

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen Dawn Frey Joyce Devan
 Gloria Whitekettle Bill Hildebrand Ruth Hermann

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzingi, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts
 Wally Smith

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord
 For our "action" committees/task forces
 Our Community and Families

We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their lives due to special needs:



DECEMBER



3rd - Karl vanDyk
 4th - Amy Williams
 11th - Richard Sindlinger
 13th - Gloria Sindlinger
 19th - Wayne Hildebrand Jr.
 20th - William Lupp
 21st - Tammy Cahoon
 22nd - Susan vanDyk
 25th - Sheela Hernandez



Please Note - On the 1st Sunday service of the month the birthdays for the month will be read. The Birthdays for the current month will be posted on the bulletin board

Early January 2019

4th - Elizabeth Hernandez
 4th - Dezzaray Tanner
 7th - Hans Abendschoen

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

MILITARY

Kevin Kuhn	U.S.C.G.
Lindsay Wood	U.S.A.F.
Dakota Kaufman	U. S. Army in Kuwait
Matthew Holland	U. S. Army
Chuck Barrows	U. S. Army
Megan Messersmith	U.S.A.F.
Krista McKenzie	U.S.A.F.
Jonathan Cosgrove	U.S.M.C.
James Bova	U. S. Navy
Dylan Moynihan	U. S. Navy
Tyr Abendschoen	U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan

Epiphany will be celebrated on January 6, 2019.



FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS



DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

to First St. John's Lutheran Church

140 W. King St., York, PA 17401

EVERY MONDAY

From 9:30 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 AM



COFFEE CUPS / DEER TRACKS are for sale. The cups have our church name on them and the deer tracks are a painted wooden cutout of the church. Call or leave a message on the church phone-(717) 843-8597.

Coffee cups are \$6.00

Deer tracks are \$12.00.



CHURCH DECORATING

Friday, December 7th. Dinner will be supplied.

Time: 5:30 until finished



Women's Care Center
Pregnant?

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285

