

**First St. John's Lutheran Church**

140 W. King Street  
York, PA 17401-1307  
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**Pastor Rev. James A. Driskell**

Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

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**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**



**VOLUME 50 ISSUE 1**

**Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)**

**JANUARY 2018**

**PASTOR'S CORNER**

"I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers," Paul wrote this to his brother in Christ Philemon. Ya, you can kind of think that it was just kind of a pro-forma, what pastors are supposed to say. Pastors are human, maybe a lot of times pastors don't feel so thankful. Paul goes on to write: "because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints," Should we remember everyone in prayer? Yes... but... It's as in giving gifts. One of ministry in a down-town, challenging, is that we have limited resources, of everything. Yes people at First Saint Johns have provided, although there is more that we could do, we do a lot for what we have. But no matter what we have only so much time, material and money to work with. What we've done with what we have has been remarkable, but that doesn't mean we are careless with it. Our first responsibility is to our brothers and sisters in Jesus. That doesn't mean everyone who comes to the door saying "Lord, Lord..." Jesus had those people: "ESV **Matthew 7:22** On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ESV **23** And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'" Lot of people who like to say "Lord, Lord..." and they don't know what they're talking about and they don't care. They have no compunction about coming to a church and "expecting" people to hand them things for no good reason. We can't do that. We do our best and considering, we do very well in reaching out. We are not here to be a social service agency, the church of Jesus Christ has a mission that includes baptizing and making disciples. If we are not doing that we are not a Christian Church.

This is all not to say that we shouldn't be doing these things. Joyce and Gordon came up with a divinely inspired plan to benefit two separate ministries while benefiting from our Thrivent action dollars. Buying chocolate and coffee from Lutheran World Relief to help farmers in Central/South America derive more profit from their coffee/coco plants, sell those products here and then provide the profits for our Spanish ministry under our Vicar Jose Montalvo. Gordon and Joyce are to be congratulated for such an inspired effort.

I certainly pray that you've had a Merry and Blessed Christmas, the special times of Advent and Christmas have been held, we've had this time of joy and celebration. But now we need to refocus on the work of the Great Commission, Matthew 28: 16-20. Our responsibility first and foremost is to disciple and be disciplined to build disciples for the Kingdom. With all due respect, that is something that the Church as a whole has done very poorly for at least the last two generations and the church is reaping the results of that now.

We at First St Johns are at the seven year mark, and research has shown that In both church plants and renewals, the seventh year is either when the church in question starts to grow, or continues to pretty much fade away. We're at an interesting and somewhat encouraging crossroad. We are still pretty much the same despite the losses that would be expected from what started out to be an aged church. We have become much more open to those around us. I realized at the Reformation Walk we held in October, of those who were participating, I was one of the few that was native American English speaker. People are Spanish speaking, French-Creole, Chinese, grew up in Canada. We have many more members who live in the downtown area. This is all good and we still have the traditional European background people who commute from the suburbs. We are showing that such a membership mixture can work, just as it did in the Acts Church. And means that we do have the potential to grow. But if we are to do that it needs to be in terms of building disciples. We cannot be here just to hand things out and not expect that those people who feel they need material help, and not emphasize that their ultimate need is the Holy Spirit and the eternal resurrection.

I intend to reemphasize our need to grow disciples in this new year. That is the only way to grow and truly serve Christ, what He will truly bless as befitting His church. When we have people properly disciplined the members of our church the results will be seen in the outreach of First Saint Johns. When you're on a jet plane, they tell you to put the oxygen mask on first, then someone who needs help. You can't do either one of you any good if you pass out from lack of oxygen. There has been a serious lack of spiritual oxygen in the church and we need to remedy that in order to serve the Kingdom. Matthew tells of the ten virgins, five who were wise and saved their oil for what was truly important, the return of the bridegroom and we know that Jesus is the bridegroom in that story. There were five foolish virgins, they missed out because they weren't responsible for what they had been taught in Jesus and they were shut out of the feast, that being our eternal resurrection. We need to grow disciples, continue to provide for that oil in the church and enable others to be a part of the marriage feast of the Lamb. If not we will be held accountable. Prayers for our New Year, let's grow in our discipleship of Jesus and as brothers and sisters in Christ. May the Lord richly bless you.

**Pastor's corner in Spanish on page 9**





### SUNDAY WORSHIP

MATINS 8:30 AM  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 9:00 AM  
SERVICE 10:30 AM

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

#### REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

- Sunday -** Christian Education 9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
1:30 PM - Prayer Meeting  
**Spanish Service**  
5:00-6:00 PM Bible Study  
6:00-6:30 PM Dinner  
6:30-8:30 PM Service
- Monday -** PASTOR'S DAY OFF  
9:00 AM - Vicar Montalvo Prayer
- Tuesday -** 8:30 AM-Prayer Breakfast-First St. John's (Last Tuesday of the month)  
3:30-5:00 PM - Kickboxing  
6:00-8:00 PM Young Lives (every other Tuesday)  
6:30 PM - Alcoholics Anonymous
- Wednesday** 10:00 AM - Morning Bible Study at Church  
6:30 PM - Adult Choir
- Thursday** 9:00 AM Matins  
11:00 AM - Employment Support Group  
3:30-5:00 PM - Kickboxing  
5:30-6:00 PM - Private Confession in sanctuary  
6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting
- Saturday** Kickboxing 11:30 AM / 1:00 PM - Martial Arts

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

#### WELCOME

The mission of this church is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

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. Come in and talk to Pastor Jim and become part of the Body of Christ here at First St Johns Church.

#### Contact Us

Pastor Rev. Jim Driskell  
Phone 717.843.8597  
E-Mail: [bm2driskell@aol.com](mailto:bm2driskell@aol.com)  
First St. Johns Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York PA 17401  
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Pastor Jim conducts a Bible study and coffee break each Wednesday at 10 AM, at the Green Bean Roasting Company. Members of the business community and the general public are invited to take a break and stop by. Free parking for the duration of the study may be had on the church's parking lot. For more information, phone 717-843-8597.



Don't forget - Big, hot prayer breakfast at the church. the last Tuesday of the month. Neighbors are invited. Breakfast is at 8:30 AM. We will have prayer following the breakfast.



#### SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 AM Matins  
10:30 AM Morning Service

#### SPANISH SERVICE

5:00-6:00 PM Bible Study  
6:00-6:30 PM Dinner  
6:30-8:30 PM Service

Communion services are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, and the 5th Sunday of those months with 5 Sundays.

(The third Sunday service is a Matins Service).

Our healing service is on the second Sunday of the month (after the morning service).

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), Spanish and Chinese for morning worship.

Community 106.1 FM  
WYGO LP FM

YORK COUNTY'S FIRST NON-COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RADIO STATION  
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 [community106.1@gmail.com](mailto:community106.1@gmail.com) (717) 848-5010



106.1 FM  
COMMUNITY RADIO

INTRODUCING

From Farmer To You

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF  
FARMERS MARKET COFFEE



LWR FARMERS MARKET COFFEE is a new line of coffee sourced directly from farmers participating in Lutheran World Relief projects.

Every delicious cup helps transform poor communities that depend on their coffee crop to feed their families. Farmers get a strong up-front price for their coffee beans and a portion of the profit.

With LWR Farmers Market Coffee, farmers aren't just suppliers of coffee beans, they are partners

Our church will be selling coffee to help support Vicar Montalvo and the Lutheran World Relief farmers. The church obtained a Thrivent action grant to purchase the coffee. Orders are now being taken for the coffee

Please help support Jose and the farmers.

Contact Gordon Moul at (717) 266-4212 for more information.

#### HARVEST OF BLESSING

Provides an after school meal for children between the ages of 4-18 at First St. John's Lutheran church, 140 West King Street, York PA 17401. Phone number [717-843-8597].

Registration is required.

The meals are served Monday through Thursday from 3:00-4:30 PM.



# Music Notes

! A Blessed New Year to all!

I want to thank all the people who participated in the "special" services and programs that took place during the month of December: the LWML, John Pfeiffer, and the White Rose Chorus for the Holly Tea; the Adult Choir for leading the service of Lessons and Carols; Ed Abendschoen III and Karl VanDyk for their help with the German Christmas service. Thank you also to all the people and groups that provided the Wednesday evening Advent meal. First St. John's is truly blessed to have willing people to help in all areas of need in the church.

### THIS YEAR'S EPIPHANY SERVICE WILL BE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, AT 7:00 P.M.

There will be a traditional service in the church and then all are invited to join our Spanish friends as they celebrate "Three Kings Day" in the basement fellowship hall. As I thought about the "three kings," I wanted to know more of the tradition behind them. This information comes from a book that is titled: "Christmas: it's carols, customs and Legends."

"The three Wise Men (also referred to as the Three Kings and as Magi) are always a part of the Nativity scene. The story of their visit to the Christ Child is told in St. Matthew, and they are in themselves familiar symbols of Christmas. According to medieval legend, They were Melchior, King of Arabia, who brought a gift of gold (signifying gold for a King); Gaspar or Gasper, King of Tarsus, who brought myrrh (significant of the Great Physician); and Balthasar, King of Ethiopia, who brought frankincense (signifying a High Priest)

These gifts brought to the Christ Child by the Wise Men may well have been the origin of our present-day custom of giving gifts at Christmas. On the other hand, it may have grown out of the desire to emulate the unselfishness of Christ. "Many cultures celebrate their Christmas on Epiphany, and share their gifts at that time.



*Ken Sanders  
Minister of Music*



**THE ADULT CHOIR:** Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,  
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith



The special offering for the month of  
**JANUARY**  
Habitat For Humanity



TO HEAR PAST SERMONS FROM  
PASTOR DRISKELL



GO TO [www.Soundcloud.com/jim-driskell](http://www.Soundcloud.com/jim-driskell).

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GIVING ELECTRONICALLY THE SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM WILL ALLOW YOU TO DO THAT.

Please contact the church office for the form to do electronic transfer.



### For More Information

- Call Vanco Payment Solutions at 800-675-7430.
- Individuals may contact the organization benefiting from their giving.
- Call Thrivent Federal Credit Union at 800-688-6032.

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 let the pastor know.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



**Griefshare** is a very important ministry to comfort those who have lost loved ones with the peace and comfort of Jesus. Tammy Bosley has been doing a great job with this ministry

She needs help to maintain this group. Please let Tammy know you will help her. No special training required, just a desire to serve others in Jesus. Thank you for your consideration and God bless you.

For more information call 717-968-0690.



## JANUARY 2018 PARISH VISITOR

**FEBRUARY DEADLINE**

Articles Due January 19th - Friday

Mail Date January 25th - Thursday



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](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net).



"Looks like another stewardship sermon."

### MEETINGS IN JANUARY

Worship Committee Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>-12:00 Noon \*

Church Council Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>- 5:30 PM

\*Worship Committee will meet at 12:00 Noon on the 1st Sunday of every Month



**OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS**  
 Christian Education 9:00 AM  
 Sunday School 9:15 AM  
 Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
 Mid week Bible Study 10:00 AM (Weds)

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

**JANUARY 2018**

**Pastor**  
 Reverend James A. Driskell  
 Cell Phone Number 717-

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Spanish Bible Study/Dinner/Service 5:00-8:00 PM if not listed	<b>1</b> Pastor's Family Day Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>2</b> A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>3</b> 10 AM Bible Study at Green Bean Roasting Co. <b>Adult Choir 6:30 PM</b> Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>4</b> 9:00 AM MATINS N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm Emp. Supp. Group 11am Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Martial Arts 1:00 PM Kickboxing 11:30 PM <b>EPIPHANY EVENING SERVICE 6:00 pm</b>
<b>7</b> Baptism of our Lord Spanish Bible Study/Dinner/Service 5:00-8:00 PM <b>NC White WORSHIP COMM. MTG. - 12:00 Noon</b>	<b>8</b> Pastor's Family Day <b>FOOD PANTRY</b> Food distributed 9:30-10:30 am Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>9</b> A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm Young Lives 6-8 pm Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>10</b> 10 AM Bible Study at Green Bean Roasting Co. <b>Adult Choir 6:30 PM</b> Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>11</b> 9:00 AM MATINS Emp. Supp. Group 11am <b>Church Council Mtg. 5:30 PM</b> N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Martial Arts 1:00 PM Kickboxing 11:30 PM
<b>14</b> 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany C Green Spanish Bible Study/Dinner/Service 5:00-8:00 PM	<b>15</b> Pastor's Family Day Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>16</b> A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>17</b> 10 AM Bible Study at Green Bean Roasting Co. <b>Adult Choir 6:30 PM</b> Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM MATINS Emp. Supp. Group 11am Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Martial Arts 1:00 PM Kickboxing 11:30 PM
<b>21</b> 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany NC Green Spanish Bible Study/Dinner/Service 5:00-8:00 PM	<b>22</b> Pastor's Family Day <b>FOOD PANTRY</b> Food distributed 9:30-10:30 am Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>23</b> A.A. Mtg. 6:30pm Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Young Lives 6-8 pm Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>24</b> 10 AM Bible Study at Green Bean Roasting Co. <b>Adult Choir 6:30 PM</b> Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>25</b> 9:00 AM MATINS Emp. Supp. Group 11am Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Martial Arts 1:00 PM Kickboxing 11:30 PM How to Manage Your Money Event 3:00-5:00 PM
<b>28</b> 4th Sunday after the Epiphany C Green Spanish Bible Study/Dinner/Service 5:00-8:00 PM	<b>29</b> Pastor's Family Day Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>30</b> A.A. Mtg. 6:30pm Prayer Breakfast 8:30 PM Kickboxing 6:00-7:00 PM Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM	<b>31</b> 10 AM Bible Study at Green Bean Roasting Co. <b>Adult Choir 6:30 PM</b> Harvest of Blessing 3:00-4:30 PM			
The 5th Sunday of the month will be a Communion Service	Every Monday- Prayer 9:00 AM Vicar Montalvo	<b>LAY READER:</b>	<b>USHERS</b> Tammy Bosley Jerry Allison	<b>Other Thursday Events</b> Kickboxing 3:30-5:00PM Private Confession 5-7 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm <b>If not listed</b>	<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b> Nancy Hildebrand	<b>SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS</b> <b>JANUARY</b> Habitat for Humanity

**ESQUINA DEL PASTOR-January 2018**

"Doy gracias a mi Dios siempre que me acuerdo de vosotros en mis oraciones", Pablo escribió esto a su hermano en Cristo (Filemón. Ya, usted puede tener gusto de pensar que sólo era una especie de pro-forma, lo que los pastores deben decir. Los pastores son humanos, tal vez un montón de veces pastores no se sienten tan agradecidos. Pablo va a escribir: "porque oigo de tu amor y de la fe que tienes hacia el Señor Jesús y de todos los santos", debemos recordar a todos en la oración? Si... pero... Es como en los regalos. Uno de ministerio en un centro, desafiante, es que tenemos recursos limitados, de todo. Sí, la gente en la primera Saint Johns han proporcionado, aunque hay más cosas que podríamos hacer, podemos hacer mucho por lo que tenemos. Pero no importa lo que tenemos sólo tanto tiempo, material y dinero para trabajar. Lo que hemos hecho con lo que tenemos ha sido notable, pero eso no significa que estamos descuidados con ella. Nuestra primera responsabilidad es para con nuestros hermanos y hermanas de Jesús. Eso no significa que todos los que vienen a la puerta diciendo "Señor, Señor..." Jesús tenían esas personas: "La ESV (**Mateo 7:22** En aquel día Muchos me dirán: "Señor, Señor, ¿acaso no profetizar en su nombre, y expulsaba a los demonios en tu nombre, y hacer muchas obras poderosas en su nombre?" **23** y luego la ESV se declaro a ellos, "nunca os conocí; apartaos de mí, trabajadores de la anarquía". Mucha gente a quien le gusta decir "Señor, Señor..." y no saben de lo que están hablando y no les importa. Ellos no tienen ningún reparo en venir a una iglesia y "expectante" a la gente a entregarles las cosas sin una buena razón. No podemos hacer eso. Hacemos nuestro mejor esfuerzo y considerando, hacemos muy bien en llegar. No estamos aquí para ser una agencia de servicio social, la iglesia de Jesucristo tiene una misión que incluye bautizar y hacer discípulos. Si no es lo que estamos haciendo no somos una iglesia cristiana.

Todo esto no quiere decir que no deberíamos estar haciendo estas cosas. Joyce y Gordon llegó con un plan divinamente inspirada en beneficio de dos ministerios separados, mientras se benefician de nuestra acción Thrivent dólares. Comprar chocolate y café de Lutheran World Relief para ayudar a los agricultores de América Central y del Sur obtienen más beneficios de su café/plantas de coco, vender esos productos aquí y, a continuación, proporcionar los beneficios para nuestro ministerio bajo nuestro Vicario José Montalvo. Gordon y Joyce merecen ser felicitados por un inspirado esfuerzo.

Yo ciertamente orar que has tenido una feliz y bendecida Navidad, los tiempos de Adviento y de Navidad se han celebrado, hemos tenido este momento de alegría y celebración. Pero ahora tenemos que concentramos en la labor de la Gran Comisión, Mateo 28: 16-20. Nuestra responsabilidad es en primer lugar y sobre todo, al discípulo y ser discipulados para construir los discípulos para el reino. Con todo el debido respeto, eso es algo que la Iglesia como un todo, se ha hecho muy poco por al menos las dos últimas generaciones y la iglesia está cosechando los resultados de ahora.

Estamos en primera St Johns están en la marca de siete años, y la investigación ha demostrado que tanto la iglesia en plantas y renovaciones, el séptimo año es cuando la iglesia en cuestión empieza a crecer, o continúa prácticamente desaparecen. Estamos en una encrucijada interesante y bastante alentadora. Todavía estamos bastante igual, a pesar de las pérdidas que pudiera esperarse de lo que comenzó a ser un anciano de la iglesia. Nos hemos vuelto mucho más abiertos a aquellos que nos rodean. Me di cuenta en el Paseo de la reforma, que celebramos en octubre de quienes participaron, yo era uno de los pocos que se habla inglés americano nativo. La gente que habla español, francés-criollo, Chino, creció en Canadá. Tenemos muchos más miembros que viven en el área del centro de la ciudad. Todo esto es bueno y todavía tenemos el tradicional fondo europeo de personas que se trasladan desde los suburbios. Estamos demostrando que esa mezcla de pertenencia puede trabajar, tal como lo hizo en los hechos la Iglesia. Y significa que tenemos el potencial para crecer. Pero si queremos hacer que es necesario en términos de construcción de discípulos. No podemos estar aquí justo al lado de las cosas y no esperar que las personas que sienten la necesidad de ayuda material, y no insistir en que su mayor necesidad es el Espíritu Santo y la resurrección eterna.

Me propongo subrayar nuestros discípulos necesitan para crecer en este nuevo año. Esa es la única manera de crecer y sirven verdaderamente a Cristo, lo que él realmente bendice, como corresponde a su iglesia. Cuando tenemos personas debidamente capacitados los miembros de nuestra iglesia se verán resultados en la divulgación del primer Saint Johns. Cuando estás en un avión, te dicen para poner la máscara de oxígeno primero y, a continuación, alguien que necesita ayuda. Usted no puede hacer cualquiera de ningún bien si se pasa de la falta de oxígeno. Ha habido una grave falta de oxígeno espiritual en la Iglesia y tenemos que solucionar que para servir al Reino. Mateo narra las diez vírgenes, cinco que fueron sabias y guardó su petróleo de lo que era realmente importante, el regreso del esposo y sabemos que Jesús es el esposo de esa historia. Hubo cinco vírgenes insensatas, han perdido porque no eran responsables de lo que ellos habían sido enseñados en Jesús y que quedaban fuera de la fiesta, que es nuestra resurrección eterna. Tenemos que crecer, prestando a los discípulos para que el aceite en la iglesia y permitir a otros a ser parte de la fiesta de bodas del Cordero. Si no vamos a ser responsables. Oraciones para nuestro Año Nuevo, vamos a crecer en nuestro seguimiento de Jesús y como hermanos y hermanas en Cristo. Que el Señor os bendiga ricamente.

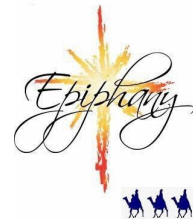


## UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES THROUGH EASTER 2018

### EPHIPANY SERVICE

**Saturday, January 6th**

**Evening Service-6:00 PM**



### ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE

Wednesday, February 14th

Evening Service, 7:00 PM



### LENTEN EVENING SERVICES

**Wednesday Evenings 7:00 PM**

February 21st, 28th

March 7th, 14th, and 21st



### PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

10:30 AM Morning Service



### MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Type of Service to be Announced



### GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

Noon and 7:00 PM



### EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

7:00 AM Sunrise Service

10:30 AM Morning Service



## STEWARDSHIP: JANUARY 2018

It's a new year. It's a time when we take stock of the year past in order to improve the year to come. It's a time when we sit down to plan and implement what we want to accomplish and even change. Part of that is planning our stewardship for the coming year.

Often we find this difficult and daunting and even joyless. But it doesn't have to be. In fact, it is really quite simple and full of joy. So here are some tips to make that planning less stressful. You begin by answering these three questions: Who are you? To whom do I give? And how much?

So, who are you? The Table of Duties in the Small Catechism informs us. Are you a hearer of God's Word? Are you a citizen of society? Are you a member of a family? Stewardship covers these three estates: church, society, family. We don't particularly struggle to give to society or family. Our struggles, our difficulties and our questions arise in giving to the church.

So, what is our duty as members of the church with regard to giving? The Table of Duties, again, gives us a guide. If you are a hearer, a member of the church who receives instruction, St. Paul taught: "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor" (Gal. 6:6). This means the local congregation is primary.

Your pastor is the one called to preach the Gospel to you and administer the Lord's blessed sacraments to you. Your congregation is the place where those things happen. Thus, when God calls us to give to the church, He has the local congregation in mind. For "the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14).

How much do we give to the local congregation? Our only instructions are these: to give regularly (1 Cor. 6:1-2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23).

In other words, giving to the church is not to be an afterthought, given after everything else is spent. In this way, it is deliberate. We give regularly – weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly – keeping in mind our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. We set it aside beforehand – before anything else is spent.

From those first fruits, we set aside a proportionate and generous amount. Ten percent was the standard for the Israelites. This was a command for the ancient Israelites. We can give as much as we want, but ask yourself: do we really want to be less generous than was commanded of the Israelites? Is the job of the New Testament Church bigger or smaller than the job given to Israel?

And how are we to give it? We give it with eagerness and earnestness. We give it cheerfully and with love, not out of compulsion. For through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, God has made us His children, forgiven us all our sins, given us grace upon grace, promised us life everlasting with Him in His kingdom, and filled us with His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This makes giving a joy, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's that easy. And it is joyful. For in stewardship, our gracious and giving Lord invites us to take part in the work that He accomplishes here on earth, providing for the ongoing preaching of the gospel as well as those who are in need. Taking part in that makes all our work holy – work that is done in service to the Lord as priestly members of His kingdom.



### EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP

The Employment Workshop at First St. Johns Lutheran Church, 140 W. King St, York provides valuable working knowledge of the current job market and how to get through it. The classes are free and provide job leads, resume help, cover letter help, free use of a computer after the class, help with job applications and emotional and spiritual support in a faith based atmosphere.. Weekly meetings are held on Thursday at 11 AM. No pre-registration necessary. Call 717-843-8597 with any questions.



**PRAYERS**

Ruthetta Fogle  
 Christians especially in the Middle East—persecuted  
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
 Becky Lupp-Illness  
 Angie Linebaugh-Illness  
 Joseph Roth-Cancer  
 Patricia Kesselring  
 Thomas Rojahn  
 Edward (Nancy Hildebrand's brother)  
 Susan Null-Cancer  
 Christina  
 Jake Mokris (son of Kathy Mokris)-Israel  
 Don Daugherty-Failing liver and kidneys  
 Faith Bentz  
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
 Susan Peregoy  
 Doug Skinner-Heart  
 Paul and Cathy Weaver  
 Bob Fitz-Liver failure  
 Keith Fogle-Cancer  
 Charles Rausher  
 Nancy Hildebrand  
 Jerry Allison  
 Beth Smith  
 For those in Puerto Rico, Florida and Texas  
 Eddie Rivera  
 James Dowdy  
 Leslie Warren  
 Crystal Myers

**FIRST TIME REQUESTS**

Doug Skinner-Heart  
 Larry Stevens  
 Chris Bowman  
 James Mitchell  
 Jessica Driskell-Broken Hip

**SHUT-IN MEMBERS**

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

**LEADERS**

Church Pastor, Vicar Montalvo, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Reichel, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack.

**PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING**

For our Community Radio Station  
 For 140 years  
 For all of God's Gifts  
 Carol Clark  
 James Driskell II-Pulmonary Embolism  
 Roy Bose-Heart issues  
 Jeff Rehmeier (Step-son of Delores Rehmeier)-Heart Issues  
 Carl Roth-Heart & Eye problems  
 Marge Driskell-Recovering from surgery

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



**JANUARY**



- 4th - Elizabeth Hernandez
- 4th - Dezzaray Tanner
- 7th - Hans Abendschoen
- 15th - Lois Hollinger
- 27th - Harold Emig
- 28th - Addesha Brady
- 28th - Karen Hildebrand



**Please Note - On the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 February**

- 1st - Matt Lauer
- 2nd - Michelle Taylor
- 5th - Edward Abendschoen IV

**PRAYERS (cont.)**

**SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

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

**MILITARY**

- |                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Charlie Malley    | U. S. Navy Chaplain        |
| Jose Montalvo     | U.S.A.F. - Alaska          |
| Blake McKinney    | U.S.C.G.                   |
| Clay McKinney     | U.S.C.G.                   |
| Sean Cooke        | U. S. Navy Seal            |
| Brent Kroh        | U.S.M.C.                   |
| Jake Scott        | U. S. Army                 |
| Justin Hinkley    | U.S.M.C.                   |
| Ashlee DeSantis   | U. S. Army                 |
| Samuel Taylor     | U. S. Army                 |
| Kevin Kohn        | U.S.C.G.                   |
| Lindsay Wood      | U.S.A.F.                   |
| Jonathan Driskell | Massachusetts State Police |
| 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                 |



**FOOD PANTRY 2018**

**The food pantry is in need of food items.** We will need more items than before due to opening the food pantry to the public. The food distribution will be on the dates listed Canned meats, toilet paper, shelf storable milk (not dry milk), and paper towels are in the highest demand. There is also a need for adult diapers.

**Please, make certain that the dates on products have not expired. Also, do not donate dented cans or items that have been opened (unless the contents are individually wrapped). Thank you for all you give!**

**AS AVAILABILITY OF FOOD PERMITS**



**NORMALLY TWO MONDAYS PER MONTH**

**JANUARY 8TH AND 22ND**

**PRAYER 9:00 AM (VOLUNTARY) EVERY WEEK**

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION 9:30-10:30 AM**

**PANERA BREAD 9:30-11:00 AM**



**Feeding the Community**

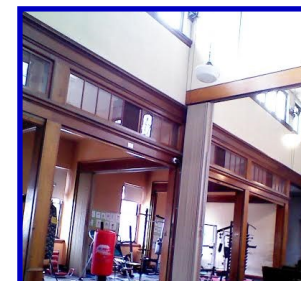
**FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS**

**DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD**

**to First St. John's Lutheran Church  
 140 W. King St., York, PA 17401**

**EVERY MONDAY**

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



**CHECK OUT THE EXERCISE AREA ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE PARISH HALL! IT'S FREE AND OPEN FOR USE BY CHURCH MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY.**



**THURSDAY  
 3:30-5:00 PM  
 NO COST**



**The Pregnancy and Family Resource Center at 1049 N Hartley St., York PA 17404**

this is a pro-life group that could use your help in time and resources, see Pastor Jim for details