

St. John's Epistle

December 2023

A Newsletter of

St. John's Lutheran Church—LCMS
515 College Ave. W. Ladysmith, WI 54848
stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net
715-532-5780

<http://www.stjohnsladysmith.org>





Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19)

It's quite evident that Mary rejoiced in the birth of her Son and Savior Jesus Christ. We only need to listen to her in the Magnificat **"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."** (Luke 1:47) What a wonderful experience to not only have a baby, but to know that this child would be the Savior of the world.

At Jesus' birth, angels worshipped Him. Magi came to see Him. Mary witnessed her Son at a very young age in the temple teaching and listening to the religious leaders. She witnessed the water being made into wine at the wedding in Cana. She knew about all the wonderful things her Son had done. After all, she was with Him and knew more things that weren't written in scripture. How wonderful it must have been to have those memories! But that would soon change. Those memories would be overshadowed by her Son being arrested, beaten, placed upon the cross, and dying.

Such is our Christian life. In a matter of weeks we will celebrate Christmas. What wonderful memories we have of the many Christmas Eves and Christmas Days in the past. Christmas carols, hymns, Christmas greetings, friends, and family. What joy it brings to all of us when we hear the words **"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."** (Luke 2:11)

Yet, there are many things during Christmas that try to overshadow the wonderful memories we have of our Savior. It could be the death of a loved one, an illness, a financial problem, or maybe even a family member that won't be able to join us for Christmas. It could be many things! It's part of the world and

sometimes it causes us to forget how blessed we really are by the birth of our Lord.

Think of how blessed you are! You have been given faith to believe in Jesus Christ. You have been baptized into His death and resurrection. You receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins. You have life and salvation. It's all yours! It's all going on right now and no matter what happens in your life, you are in the palm of your Lord's hand.

Remember to keep Jesus in your Christmas. He is the reason we are so blessed. He is the reason for Christmas!

In Christ,

Pastor Craig S. Zandi



Notification of Pastor When in the Hospital

There has been some confusion when people check in or go to the hospital. The hospital will **not automatically** inform your church, or pastor, that you are there unless it is specifically stated in your records. Furthermore, inform your family members to call your pastor. They can also contact the chaplain's office at the hospital and give them the information. Again, don't assume the hospital will do it, because they won't. You must be proactive to make sure your pastor is informed if you want him to come see you. Many times people are in the hospital and he has no idea they are there.

ASSISTING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Acolytes: *Ushers/Youth*
Altar Guild: *Sam & Shelley Barg*
Finance: *Jim Kuchta & Tom Rosolowski*

Worship Assistants for December

Sunday, Dec 3 	Elder: Randy Scott Greeters: Tammy Busse Ushers: <u>Team 5:</u> Jim Kuchta-Captain, Gary Drohman, Don Josi, Dave Thompson, Russ Thompson
Wednesday, Dec 6 <i>Advent</i>	Elder: Tom Rosolowski <i>6:00PM</i>
Sunday, Dec 10 <i>Caring & Sharing</i>	Elder: Darrell Kuchta Greeters: Bonnie Tatro Ushers: <u>Team 1:</u> Dave Scott-Captain, Dave Kuchta, Tom Rosolowski, Vic Plockelman, Stu Pask
Wednesday, Dec 13 <i>Advent</i>	Elder: Randy Scott <i>6:00PM</i>
Sunday, Dec 17 <i>LWML</i> <i>Mites In</i> <i>Gathering</i>	Elder: Tom Rosolowski Greeters: Earle & Linda Gustafson Ushers: <u>Team 2:</u> Dave Kmosena- Captain, Terry Schar, Mike Kuchta, Jim Rodd, Lee Purdy
Wednesday, Dec 20 <i>Advent</i>	Elder: Tim Dolan <i>6:00PM</i>

Sunday, Dec 24
9:00AM service

Elder: Sam Barg
Greeters: Janice Zandi
Ushers: Team 3: Dennis Flater-Captain,
 Bob Hauser, Alden Hook, Ray Tousey,
 Kurt Harris

Sunday, Dec 24
Christmas Eve
6:00PM

Elder: Sam Barg

Monday, Dec 25
Christmas Day
9:00AM service

Elder: Sam Barg
Ushers: Team 4: Chuck Perenchio-Captain,
 Sam Barg, Dave Werner, John Monnier,
 Gene Zillmer

Sunday, Dec 31
New Year's Eve Day
9:00AM service

Elder: Tim Dolan
Greeters: Sam & Shelley Barg
Ushers: Team 5: Jim Kuchta-Captain,
 Gary Drohman, Don Josi, Dave Thompson,
 Russ Thompson



Poinsettia orders need to be ordered by Sunday,
 December 3rd.
 Cost is \$15.00 each, order forms and drop box are in the
 fellowship hall.



Here we are at the end of the calendar year already! Where did that time go?

We have a problem! We need 2 more Bible Buddies because we have 2 new students starting! Please consider this fun opportunity! What a great problem to have!!

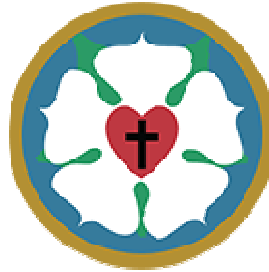
We have been busy learning our parts for our Christmas Program on Dec. 17th. Please join us in celebrating Jesus' birth!

Our Bible lessons for the month of December will all focus on Jesus' humble birth and the shepherds visiting Him at the stable.

We will be learning to write letters: L, M, & N this month. We work on shapes and colors daily.

Please consider donating either food or gift cards to our annual food drive. We will be collecting until Dec. 24th.

If you'd like to come in to read a story or Just to say hi to the kids-please come on a Tuesday or Wednesday. We look forward to your visit!



What Luther says;

Yet there is no other way to salvation. Here is an immutable either-or, though the world in its blindness sees it not. Luther uses some incisive words about this matter in his sermon on John 1:10 (1537)

This is our chief article (the article of those who derive their name from Christ), and this is our true, genuine faith, Christian faith, apart from which no other faith exists: that Christ is true God and man. And this faith alone saves. Whoever desires to have a different faith is welcome to have it and see where it will get him. If reason will not believe that it was possible for God to become man, then it may disbelieve it. But we Christians believe it because God's Word says so; and to faith nothing is impossible. Reason may be offended at it to whatever extent it pleases. But so it must be: whoever expects to be redeemed and saved from the devil's power, from sins, and from death must believe that Christ is true God, through whom the world was made, also true man, born of Mary. This faith alone saves-none other, however it may be called. Thus Scripture testifies (Matthew 1:21): Mary shall bring forth a son and shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins, and Luke 2:11: "Unto you is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord"; John 3:18: "He that believeth on Him [the Son] is not condemned but has eternal life (WLS p. 167)

THANK YOU

To all members who donated to our CareNet Family Christmas Gift. All items were wrapped and delivered to the CareNet Center on November 16. Thank you for making this families Christmas a little brighter.



2 Corinthians 9: 6-7 "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully^(a) will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Cookie Sale

DECEMBER 10, 2023

After Church in the fellowship hall

Donations are welcome.

Come let us
help with your
Christmas
baking



Get a variety of Christmas
cookies without all the mess

Help us raise funds to cover local expenses,
including the cost of sending two delegates to the District Convention.

The LWML at ST. John's would like to thank you for your support

Advent Series 2023

PEACE CAME TO EARTH

As Advent leads us to Christmas, we are especially seeking a distinct season of peace. We need a quiet place to rest during this restless time. Year after year, with each Advent season, we wonder if this year will bring a peace that endures. We crave the reassurance that God knows all our needs and will provide for them, not just for these short weeks but for every season.

Often, we grow impatient as we seek peace. Despite knowing the promises of God to provide for us, we might try to find peace on our own. We then define peace according to the ways we seek it. We might imagine that peace comes when we finally have enough of all the things we plan to buy. Or we might look for the perfect place where peace is an undisturbed solitude, the cabin beside a still lake. We might seek peace by escaping memories of the past. Or peace might be an elusive future where everyone does exactly what they should. These are our many ways of defining peace, but sadly, each of these directions could go on and on without ever being fulfilled.

To illustrate both our pursuit of peace and God's plan for us, our Advent series this year uses a five-point star for each sermon. Each message will emphasize a different point of the star. Overall, the star reminds us of the Christmas star of Matthew 2 and that wonderful light that guided the Wise Men to find Jesus. Their long journey ended with the blessing of a lasting peace. Just as the Wise Men followed the star, so we will go to each point in this Advent star. This won't be a useless journey that never ends. We will find that God meets us at each point of the star, knowing our needs and bringing us the peace we are seeking.

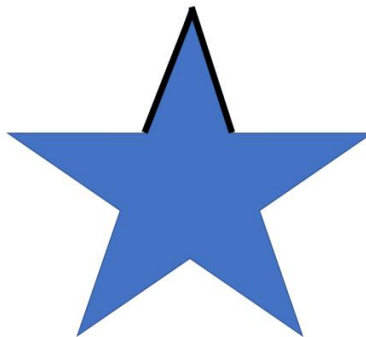
Since the five-point star will guide our journey, picture yourself drawing such a star. Start in the bottom left corner and draw up to the top center point. Stop and draw downward to the bottom right corner, then upward to the middle of the left side. Draw across to the right, and back to the bottom left corner, eventually reaching each point. Every point goes a certain distance but then is stopped. In the same way, each of our paths to

peace could go on and on, never being fulfilled. There won't be enough possessions or perfectly calm places to give us lasting peace. But as we seek peace in these many ways, God intersects us with a peace that both passes our understanding and yet meets our needs. God knows the many ways and directions by which we seek peace. As we journey, God meets us, halts our endless pursuits, and gives us a new understanding of His gift of peace. That peace comes always through the birth of Jesus, the Word become flesh who steps into the world and fulfills our desire for peace.

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 1: LOOK UP! THE STAR OF PEACE DRAWS NEAR

We begin our Advent journey with the most common way to seek peace: possessions. This is the top of our star, the most obvious pursuit of peace, shooting upward without an end in sight. The Advent season knows all about seeking more things. Shopping is in full swing and the promise is that if only we had all the right things, then we would be complete and at peace.

To counter that pursuit of peace by gathering more and more, God intersects us with the words of contentment from Paul. "Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content." (1 Timothy 6:6-8) Join all who have heard His invitation and have followed His star. In Him we have a lasting peace.



MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 2: Peace to All, Near and Far

In week 2 of Advent, we have two contrasting pursuits of peace. These two make the two middle points of the star. First, Peace is a place a long way away. Peace is leaving it all behind. Peace is that perfectly calm lake. But God's true peace comes in the middle of the storm when the Savior is in the boat with us.

Second, we might also seek Peace as the past—if only we could erase it. If we could rearrange all the pieces of our past, putting some pieces far away, we imagine the peace we seek might finally come.

But God comes to us where we are and says, "Peace be to you." God "makes peace by the blood of his cross." (Colossians 1:20) Peace comes at the cross where we are completely forgiven. We find peace in God's telling of His Son's story, His death and His resurrection. In that story, we are not just better. In that story, we're forgiven and at peace.



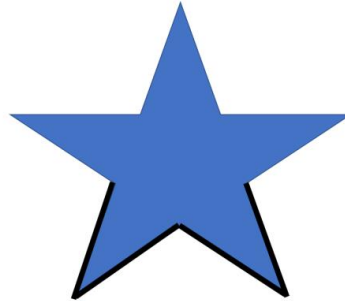
MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 3: Our Peace Rests on Him Alone

In Advent week 3, we finish the star with the two points at the bottom of the star. First, Peace is with people when they follow your directions. If everyone would only listen to us and do what we say, there would be peace.

We think of Jesus as the Messiah, the Prince of Peace. And yet, Jesus says in Matthew 10 that He has come to bring not peace but a sword to divide the world. What brings peace finally to the world? Jesus brings peace by stepping into the center of our troubled world, letting Himself be the focus of the world's anger.

Therefore, Peace is finding our Purpose. All this work to get ready for Christmas—why bother? What will bring us peace

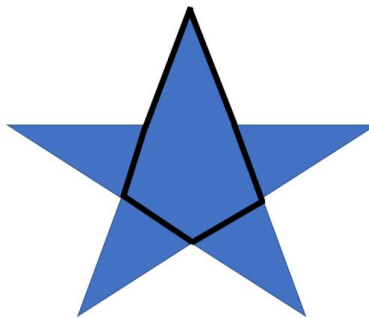
when so much is still undone? We find our peace rests not in our work but in following Him, the Prince of Peace. He filled the manger and the cross and there we find our peace.



The Nativity of Our Lord: The Diamond Found in the Manger

Now in our celebration of Christmas, we find there is a diamond in the center of the Advent star. That diamond rests in the manger of the Bethlehem stable. The treasure of the Christmas star therefore is not in the distant heavens but in the stable. Peace is finding the diamond of God's gift in the straw of the manger.

That peace becomes His gift to the world. This Christmas peace reminds us to focus on giving thanks for His gifts. By giving thanks, we can begin to step away from the useless treadmill of worry. Peace is placing our cares where they belong, with the One who cares about us. This Christmas, we have the peace that passes understanding, and this gift comes from the God who understand us perfectly. As Mary, Joseph and the shepherds pondered God's gift through the baby born, so we find peace. God's peace is found in the treasure of God's Son, laid in the straw of the manger.





A Night to Remember

"The Best Night of All"

Friday, December 1st

Doors open at 5:15pm - Dinner at 6:00pm

St. John's Lutheran Church

Cost: \$5.00

Ladies, join us and bring your friends for a relaxing evening of food
and fellowship focused on the Nativity of our Lord Jesus

ADVENT MEALS



**Join us for fellowship and Soup and Sandwiches
from 5pm – 5:45pm on the following Wednesdays
prior to our Advent Worship Services**

December 6th

December 13th

December 20th

– Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve this meal –

December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Everything is subject to change. Please check our website (www.stjohnsladysmith.org), Facebook. and/or phone the Church office 715-532-5780.					1 5:15PM <i>Night to Remember</i>	2
3 9:00AM Worship <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School 11:15 Elder meeting Poinsettia orders due today!!!!	4 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 11:30AM Ladies Birthday Luncheon	5 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 5:00PM Preschool GROWTH team meeting	6 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 11:30AM Ladies Luncheon 5:00-5:45PM Advent Supper 6:00PM Advent Service (mandatory confirmation attendance)	7 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	8	9 10:00AM LWML Bible Study
10 <i>Caring and Sharing</i> 8:00AM Finance 9:00AM Worship +HC LWML Cookie Sale <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	11 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	12 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	13 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 11:30AM Evangelism/Stewardship 5:00-5:45PM Advent Supper 6:00PM Advent Service (mandatory confirmation attendance)	14 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	15 Noon-6:00PM American Red Cross Blood Drive	16 10:00-noon Crafty Stitchers 4:00PM Christmas Caroling
17 <i>LWML Mites Ingathering</i> 9:00AM Worship <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School 3:00PM Preschool/Sunday School Christmas Program with potluck supper to follow	18 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	19 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 11:30AM FAPQG 6:00PM Council	20 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 5:00-5:45PM Advent Supper 6:00PM Advent Service (mandatory confirmation attendance)	21 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	22	23
St John's Volunteers serve meals at the Senior Center Meal Site this week						
24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 9:00AM Worship +HC <i>No Bible Study</i> No Sunday School 6:00PM Worship	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 9:00AM Worship +HC 11:30-1:00PM Christmas Day Meal	26 No Preschool NEWSLETTER ITEMS ARE DUE TODAY	27 No Preschool	28 No Preschool	29	30
31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 9:00AM Worship +HC <i>No Bible Study</i> No Sunday School	Jan 1, 2024 No Preschool					

Crafty Stitchers

Help us fill the  with





***FREE* Community (Manna Meal)
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Are you or someone you know in need of a warm,
welcoming place to enjoy
a homemade Christmas Dinner?

Christ the Savior is born!



St. John's Lutheran Church
515 College Avenue West - Ladysmith
Monday, December 25, 2023
Dine-in or Carry out
11:30AM - 1:00PM

Reservations appreciated by December 20th. (715-532-5780)

MENU

Turkey, ham,
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Vegetable, Stuffing,
Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, dessert
Coffee, Milk, , Water



Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Stewardship Newsletter
Article – December 2023

The Measure of Our Generosity

If you open up the Small Catechism, you'll find a shortened version of the Third Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." But if you look up the list of the Ten Commandments in Exodus, you'll find the full version:

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Ex. 20:8-11)

Why did Luther shorten this commandment for the Small Catechism? Was it so that the kids wouldn't have so much to memorize? No, it was because Luther knew that all the details of the Third Commandment were part of the "shadow" of the Old Testament (Col. 2:16). Or as St. Paul puts it, there is "letter" in the Old Testament law and "spirit" (2 Cor. 3:6). The details of not working on Saturday were fulfilled by Christ. That part of the Sabbath regulation no longer applies. But the spirit of the law does remain: We need to dedicate sufficient time each week to hearing God's Word and giving it honor and respect. Or as Luther sums it up in the Small Catechism's explanation to the Third Commandment: "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

The same sort of analysis applies to our giving. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to give a tenth of their income to the Levites so that those men could dedicate their lives to serving in God's house, teaching the people, conducting worship, etc. In the New Testament, there is a rigid requirement listed about handing in your tax forms to church to make sure you've given enough. But the mandate to have a full-time ministry, which is the spirit of that law concerning tithing to the Levites, is right there in 1 Corinthians 9:14: "The Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel."

The New Testament church's job is significantly larger than the job of Old Testament Israel. We are commanded to preach the Gospel to all nations. There was only the temple to maintain in the Old Testament, but we have churches, schools, universities and seminaries, plus missionaries everywhere. So you tell me: Can we really undertake the work of the ministry if our giving doesn't even measure up to Old Testament levels of generosity





Members are encouraged to mark their calendars for **Sunday, December 17 at 3pm** and come to hear the Christmas Story as told by our Sunday School and Preschool youth. A potluck supper will be held immediately following the program.

Quilters



This is why we do what we do!

This picture was taken from the Lutheran World Relief Newsletter. This woman is from Ukraine.



ALL MEMBERS are INVITED to join us on
Saturday, December 16 at 4pm to go Christmas
Caroling to area Nursing Homes and visit some
of our shut-in members.

When finished caroling, we will be heading to
Grandpa's Pizza for supper – everyone is invited
to join in the fun.



2023-2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 3

SERVING GOD'S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

JOURNEYS LUTHERAN SCHOOL | \$100,000



Transportation for Special Needs Students at Journeys Lutheran School

For 60 years, the distinctive ministry of Journeys Lutheran School has been to serve God's children with special needs such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, autism, anxiety, trauma, emotional behavior disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorders. Families choose Journeys Lutheran School for a variety of reasons, including emotional and spiritual growth, a Christian worldview, an educational approach that works best for their unique student, or a more therapeutic approach to education.

We are all God's children despite our differences, challenges, or experiences. Journeys Lutheran School prepares students in Grades 3-12 with unique learning challenges to maximize their God-given spiritual, academic, physical, emotional, and social potential. The resources and experience of Journeys provides academic help to students and provides an opportunity for their lives to be touched by the Holy Spirit through devotions, prayer, Christian counseling, religion classes, and personal witness.

Grant funds will purchase two 15-passenger vans. The vans will allow Journeys to reach and teach more students and meet their academic and spiritual needs. In addition to the school bus already in use, the vans will provide alternative means to reach students in areas outside of Milwaukee. Additionally, the vans will transport youth to Martin Luther High School, a ministry partner, so that Journeys students can take elective classes in a Christian mainstream environment. This will enable Journeys students to earn a high school diploma, not just a certificate of completion. The vans will also transport students to potential school-to-work internship opportunities and to transport students to cultural, historical, and spiritual learning experiences without needing to use the full-size school bus.

Journeys children deserve the same educational and spiritual opportunities that other children enjoy. The van will help them experience the fullness of God's creation by opening the world and all its possibilities and opportunities to them.

But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16).

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).



Mission Grant Story | Learn more at lwml.org/mission-grants

2023-2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 3

SERVING GOD'S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS JOURNEYS LUTHERAN SCHOOL | \$100,000

Transportation for Special Needs Students at Journeys Lutheran School

PRAYER #1

Most Holy Lord, we bring before You the ministry of Journeys Lutheran School and pray that You would bless the work of the teachers, therapists, aides, and all who work with the children with special needs. Bless the children as they learn Your Word, as well as other academic and life skills. We pray that Your will for this endeavor will be accomplished and the efforts of those working with the school and community will be blessed. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #2

Heavenly Father, You know the plans You have for the ministry of Journeys Lutheran School and the children it serves. We pray that the mite offerings given to provide vans to transport the children will be blessed and accomplish the purpose for which they were given. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #3

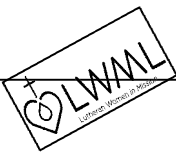
Precious Jesus, You blessed the children brought to You. We pray that You will continue to bless the work of Journeys Lutheran School and its staff as they minister to Your children with special needs. Bless the mite offerings given in support of this ministry to purchase vans for transporting students to various events. In Your name we ask it. Amen.

PRAYER #4

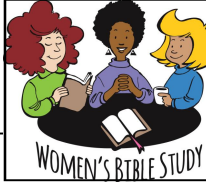

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we pray Your blessing on the mission and ministry of Journeys Lutheran School and on the staff and the children served by this ministry. May the ministry continue to grow and thrive as it serves Your children with special needs. Bless the mite offerings given to support this ministry through the purchase of vans to transport the youth to and from school and various events. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16).

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).



December 9, 2023; 10:00AM Ladies Bible study. The Bible study is entitled "Sent, Go Proclaim", copies can be found in the LWML mailbox at the lower right hand corner of the mailboxes. All the women of St. John's are invited to attend.

Mites are collected on the third Sunday of each month! Simply deposit your donation in the large mite box when you come to worship. These mites continue to fund district and national mission projects. Check the LWML bulletin board for details on some of those projects. Please let Amy Tousey or Paula Hook know if you have any questions.

Preschool's annual food drive will begin on November 27th and run through December 24th. We are looking for non-perishable foods and gift cards. If you would like to participate, please have your items at the pre-school no later than December 24th!





Greeting and Christmas cards are located at the West entrance!

**The *Next* Caring and Sharing Sunday
is **December 10th****

**This is your opportunity to show you care
for the hungry in our community by making a donation
to the Hope Food Pantry or show your concern
for the hungry children in our community by making
a donation to the
Back Pack Program.**

**ALL LADIES OF THE CHURCH ARE INVITED TO:
A CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

The ladies annual Christmas Luncheon will be at J & S Super Club on Wednesday, December 6th at 11:30AM. The meal is \$12 (includes tax and tip). Menu and sign up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall.



Rada Knives

If you are interested in purchasing Rada Knives, please contact Lorraine Flohr at 715-532-5095

All proceeds go to the St. John's Ladies Aid.

Orders are processed quickly! *They make great Christmas and wedding gifts.*

Ladies! Birthday lunches aren't just for birthdays; of course birthdays for the month are celebrated, but also it gives us an informal excuse to get together with our sisters in Christ to form bonds and friendships. No invitation needed!

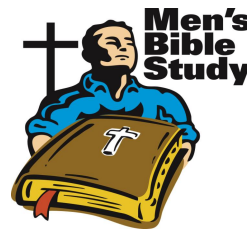


Birthday Mondays!

Monday, **December 4th** at 11:30 a.m. at the Ladysmith Family Restaurant.

All are welcome!

Men's Bible Study will be on Thursday, **December 7th & 21st** 7:00AM at the Ladysmith Family Restaurant.



ONGOING COLLECTIONS

- ◆ Aluminum cans for Preschool
- ◆ Canceled Stamps (LWML)
- ◆ Greeting cards
- ◆ Used eye glasses
- ◆ Soft eyeglass cases



Please, leave only aluminum cans! We cannot take aluminum foil, plates, etc.; aluminum cans only! Thanks for your assistance.

JOYFUL RESPONSE

JOYFUL Response (e-giving program) is run through VANCO and LCEF. It is now available for use by St. John's members, free of charge to you, as long as the money is taken out of your bank account (no credit cards). This account is for General Operating offerings only, no designated funds. The information and application to enroll are on St. John's website (www.stjohnsladysmith.org). As the Financial Secretary of St. John's, Nancy is the contact person for this program. An account has been set up at LCEF for your offerings to be deposited. Nancy will receive a statement when your offering is received at LCEF so she can enter it on your St. John's offering account. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy.



Submit Your Information!

ITEMS FOR BULLETINS are due on Tuesday by close of day each week (unless indicated otherwise in bulletins due to holidays). *Newsletter items are due* in the office no later than close of day on the Tuesday preceding the last Sunday of the month.

E-mail to: stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net
(preferred method).

Don't forget that **LARGE PRINT** bulletins and newsletters are available for those who need them. **Contact the office to get your name on the list!**





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jamie Werner
- 5 Jim Kuchta, Dave Thompson
- 7 Landon Hakes
- 8 Sandi Bishop
- 12 Cody McCann, Easton Ogurek
- 13 Lillian Srnek
- 14 Jeanne Glessing
- 19 Joanne Phetteplace
- 27 Paul Carlson, Andrea Wilson, Ray Woebbeking
- 30 Aliyah Basham, Melissa Holman, Ellen Stephenson
- 31 Alex Glessing, Irene Stine



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

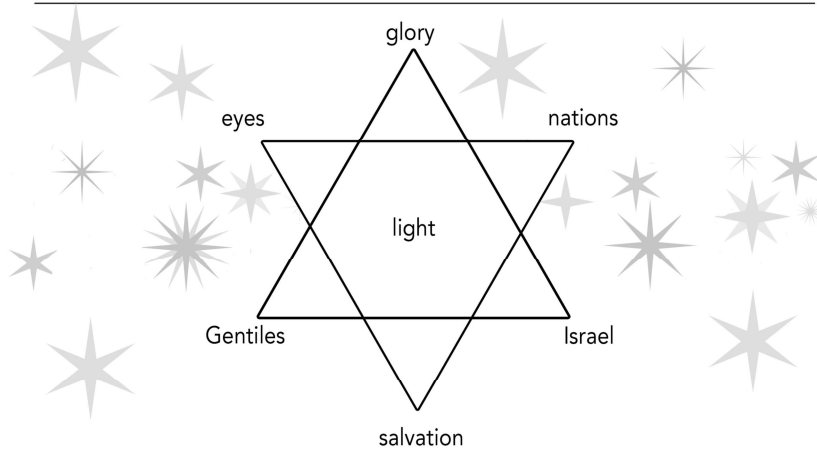
- 2 Dave and Karen Kmosena
- 22 Jane and Randy Burch



SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple,
they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

*Directions: Using the star key, write the words in
the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.*



"For my _____ have seen your _____, which you have prepared
in the sight of all _____: a _____ for revelation to the
_____, and the _____ of your people _____."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

Answers: eyes, salvation, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel, nations, Israel